



# **Documentation, Coding and Billing Guidance Document, version 10**

**Public Health Nursing and  
Professional Development Unit  
(PHNPDU)**

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**This document replaces all prior versions of  
Coding & Billing Guidance Document**

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## Introduction

This document was developed to provide local health departments (LHD) with guidance and resources specific to public health coding and billing of services rendered. This information was developed using current program Agreement Addenda, Medicaid bulletins and Clinical Coverage Policies, and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and International Classification of Diseases or Diagnosis (ICD-10) code books. Although we have made every attempt to provide comprehensive and correct information, it is still advisable to contact your program consultants if this information is unclear or if you have specific questions.

## General Information

### Documentation

1. Documentation within the health record must support the procedures, services, and supplies coded.
2. Accuracy, completeness, and timely documentation are essential, and agencies should have a policy that outlines these details. Please refer to the Documentation Guidance from Local Technical Assistance and Training (LTAT) Branch Head (<http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/>) for additional information and guidelines.
3. If there is insufficient documentation to support claims that have already been paid, the reimbursement will be considered overpayment and a refund will be requested.

### **Medicaid payment process through NC Tracks: June 2015**

Electronic adjustments are the preferred method to report an overpayment or underpayment to NC Medicaid. There are two separate actions that may be filed:

- A provider should use "void" when the client needs to cancel or submit a refund for a previously paid claim. The entire claim will be recouped under the void process.
- A provider should "replace" a claim if the client is updating claim information or changing incorrectly billed information. This term is interchangeable with adjusting a claim.

The entire claim will be recouped and reprocessed under the replacement.

4. CMS guidelines require that the **chief complaint/reason for a visit** is documented in the record. In most cases it will be a complaint of a symptom but could be “annual Family Planning (FP) exam” or “Health Check exam”. Remember that the client may present on the day of a visit with a different reason/chief complaint from the one identified when the appointment was made. In some cases, the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner may change the “chief complaint” if, during the exam, a significant problem is identified that must be addressed during the visit.

5. New versus Established client: A new client is defined as one who has not received any professional services from a physician/qualified health care professional working in your health department, within the last three years, for a billable visit that includes some level of evaluation and management (E/M) service coded as a preventive service using 99381-99387 or 99391-99397, or as an evaluation & management service using 99201-99205 and 99211-99215. If the client’s only visit to the Health Department is WIC or immunizations without one of the above service codes, it does not affect the designation of the client as a new client; the client can still be NEW. Remember that a client may be new to a program but established to the health department if they have received any professional services from a physician/qualified health care professional. In this case, you would use the forms for a “new” client for that program even though the client is billed as “established” to the health department.

Due to National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) edits the practice of billing a 99211, and then later billing a *new* visit code, has been eliminated. Many LHDs have been billing a 99211 (usually an RN only visit) the first time they see a client and then, up to 3 years later, bills a 99201 – 99205 or 99381-99387 (New Visit). Examples may include: billing the 99211 for pregnancy test counseling or head lice check by RN and then a new visit when the client comes in for their first prenatal, Family Planning or Child Health visit. Now that the NCCI edits have been implemented, all of those “new” visits will deny because the LHD will have told the system (via billing a 99211) that the client is “established.” Consult your PHNPDU Nursing Consultant if you have questions.

**6. Attention: All Providers- January 2017 Medicaid Bulletin (pg. 14)**  
**Shared/split E/M Visits**

A shared/split Evaluation and Management (E/M) visit is defined as a medically necessary encounter with a client where the physician and a qualified Non-Physician Practitioner (NPP) each personally perform a **substantive portion** of a face-to-face E/M visit with the same client on the same date of service. A “substantive portion” of an E/M visit involves all or some portion of the history, exam or medical decision-making key components of an E/M service. The physician and the qualified NPP must be in the same group practice or be employed by the same employer.

**Note:** [NPP includes the terms “mid-level provider”, “Nurse Practitioner (NP)”, “Physician Assistant (PA)” and Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) (*also acceptable is APP-Advance Practice Practitioner*).

Every party must document the work they performed. The documentation must show a face-to-face encounter with the physician, in which case the service is billed under the physician’s National Provider Identifier (NPI). If there is no face-to-face encounter with the physician, the NPP must bill the service using the NPP’s National Provider Identifier (NPI). A notation of “seen and agreed” or “agree with above” would not qualify the situation as a shared/split visit because these statements do not support a face-to-face contact with the physician. Only the NPP could bill for the services.

According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), shared/split visits are applicable for services rendered in the following settings:

- Hospital inpatient or outpatient
- Emergency department
- Hospital observation
- Hospital discharge
- Office or clinic

Shared/split visits are not allowed:

- In a skilled nursing facility or nursing facility setting
- For consultation services
- For critical care services (99291-99292)
- For procedures
- In a client’s home or domiciliary site

Shared/split visits are not considered “incident to” services.

## Billing

Effective August 2, 2018 memo: Choice of Staff to Conduct Coding and Billing Choice of staff to conduct CPT Coding and Billing.pdf

1. LHDs bill for services using the NPI of the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner who provided services to the client or for the Medical Director who signed the standing orders for the nurse to provide the service.
2. Services provided by nurses (including Enhanced Role Registered Nurses) should be **billed** using the NPI of the physician who wrote the standing order to provide the examination.
3. Further, nurses providing services for which they would bill a 99211 should **bill** that visit under the Medical Director's NPI unless there is a specific order from another physician for that client to support the visit.
4. To be eligible to bill for procedures, products, and services related to this policy, Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners shall:
  - meet Medicaid or NCHC qualifications for participation;
  - be currently Medicaid - enrolled; and
  - bill only for procedures, products, and services that are within the scope of their clinical practice, as defined by the appropriate licensing entity.
5. Place of Service:      Local Health Department = 71  
   Home Visit = 12
6. Copays:
  - LHDs should charge Medicaid copay for Adult Health /Primary Care and Adult Dental and Adult Immunizations only. Other health department programs are exempt from collecting any Medicaid copay.
  - For other insurance copays, you would collect the copay on the insurance card IF you are in-network with the insurance carrier. Otherwise, you are not obligated to do so.
  - For FP, you may collect the copay or their SFS amount due: whichever is lower (a Title X requirement). OPA- Title X Program Requirements April 2014, <http://www.hhs.gov/opa/pdfs/ogc-cleared-final-april.pdf> section 8.4.6.

- *LHDs should include specific negotiations in their insurance company contracts.* NC Law prohibits LHDs from charging clients for STI screening services. This includes collecting insurance copays. We are also prohibited by Family Planning from charging a client more than they would pay on the sliding fee scale. These items, and others like them, should be included in the contract between the Health Department and the insurance company to ensure no out-of-compliance issues with the insurance company

#### 7. Encounter Forms:

- All services provided should be indicated on the Encounter Form/Superbill whether reportable or billable.
- All encounter forms should reflect the individual staff member's identification number assigned by the health department's billing system, whether reported or billed, for statistical purposes.
- The **Rendering Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner's** (different then the Billing Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner) NPI is the person who provided the service. If the person who provided the service was an RN or LPN then we use the NPI of the physician who wrote the standing order or Medical Director (may be the same)
- In addition to the **Billing Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner** NPI, you must also include the NPI of the health department when billing. Health Departments also use the health department's taxonomy code. NCTracks requires each LHD to have a health department NPI.
- All Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners, (except nurses who are not eligible to obtain an NPI), are required to use their own NPI. Every Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner should get credentialed and obtain an NPI. Advanced Practice Practitioners do not work under standing orders. Only RN's and LPN's work under a physician's standing order.
- If a procedure or test that is commonly provided as part of a service is not provided please note "not done" so that billing staff will not think that it was just forgotten. The Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner providing the service is responsible for marking the encounter form with everything they provided to the client. Correct CPT and ICD codes must be used; make sure that all digits required are used with the ICD codes. Remember that the CPT code identifies what you did and the ICD code identifies why you did it.
- ICD codes used on the billing form are to justify the CPT codes. The biller needs to be able to link the ICD code to the respective CPT code



which means the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner should mark the encounter form in such a way that the biller can easily identify the paired ICD and CPT codes. Only one ICD code may be required to justify any CPT code. However, there may be multiple ICD codes required to provide detailed justification of the service(s) provided. ICD codes do not affect the amount that is paid for the CPT code; they are used only to justify the CPT code.

- Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners may not charge for an office visit unless they are face to face with the client. Writing an order in the medical record does not constitute a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner office visit. Remember the highest-level Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner **providing services to** the client determines the level of service billed. If the RN/ERRN sees the client and then asks the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner to come in and see the client, the visit is billed at the code for the level of visit done by the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner and the LU code would be for the RN/ERRN contact. If an RN/ERRN consults with a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner during a visit with a client but the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner does not see the client, it is billed using the code appropriate to the RN/ERRN visit.

8. Billing Preventive and E/M visits to Medicaid on the same day- (add info for other programs if appropriate)

- Medicaid will not reimburse for same day preventive visits and an E/ M (office) visit for most programs; however, refer to (exception)- in this guidance included in current Health Check Program Guide when beneficiaries under 21 years of age receiving a preventative screen also require evaluation and management of a focused complaint. In this situation, the provider may deliver all medically necessary care and submit a claim for both the preventative service (CPT 9920x/9921x) The only additional CPT codes that can be included in the service are CPT codes for injectable medications or ancillary studies for laboratory or radiology. You will need to consult with each insurance carrier for their plan specific billing rules.
- If a client is seen by a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner for STI services and an additional problem on the same day, two E/M codes may be billed, however, the -25 modifier must be appended to the second E/M code. This will identify that two “separately identifiable services” were provided by the **same Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner** on the **same day** and it is not a duplicate billing.

- Billing STI services provided by the STI ERRN-The four (4) components of the STI exam do not have to be provided by the same STI ERRN to bill Medicaid for the provision of the STI service. *This is a clarification in the Medicaid STI Clinical Service Policy. Effective 3/30/2016.* The service can still be split across 2 different days and can be provided by a different STI ERRN on each day, billing T1002 per unit (equals 15 mins.) of care provided.

STI ERRN- must bill T1002 for Medicaid clients and use 99211 to bill insurance clients. Some third-party insurance companies will also accept the T1002. Local Health Departments will need to check with each third-party payer to see how they would like the LHD to bill them for services.

- The non- STI ERRN may bill insurance using 99211 for STI treatment only visits. Non-STI ERRNs may not bill **Medicaid** for STI treatment only visits Non-STI Enhanced Role Nurses providing STI services to **Medicaid** clients should use the nonbillable STI visit code LU242 for reporting services provided to the client since they cannot bill for the services provided.
- TB nurse must bill TB services to Medicaid using T1002 and bill insurance using 99211 **or T1002**.

#### 9. Denials for Preventive Medicine Codes Billed with Immunization Administration Services: (NCTracks Newsletter March 17, 2016)

- Recent system updates resulted in NCCI edit denials (EOB 49270 - NCCI EDIT) of preventive medicine service codes submitted with EP modifier only and reported in conjunction with immunization administration service(s). These are correct NCCI edit denials.
- CMS billing guidelines indicate Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners may use modifier 25 with modifier EP or modifier TJ for preventive medicine service codes (99381 - 99397 and additional screening codes 99406-99409 and 96160) when reported in conjunction with immunization administrative services (90460-99474). Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners may submit corrected replacement claims if appropriate. Do not use TJ modifier when billing Medicaid for Family Planning services rendered to Health Choice covered children. This issue has now been corrected by NCTracks and you should receive the correct reimbursement.
- Modifier 25 may be used with other non-preventive medicine E/M services when reported in conjunction with immunization administration when the E/M service is significant and separately identifiable. Exception: If a vaccine is billed with the same date of

service as code 99211, NCCI edits do not permit the E/M code to be reimbursed. CMS has stated that an E/M code should not be billed in addition to the administration code(s) when the beneficiary presents for vaccine(s) only.

10. Use of NDC identifiers when billing/reporting 340b drugs/devices and Immunizations:

Excerpt from NC Tracks Bulletin March 29, 2018:

ALL providers are required to submit the proper NDC that corresponds to the physician administered LARCs and Vaccines used for administration and corresponding procedure code as the new pricing is based on a procedure code/NDC match. If the procedure code/NDC combination is not found, the claim line will deny and post EOB 02047: "RATE NOT FOUND. CONTACT THE M&S HELPDESK AT (1-800-591-1183) or email at [ncpharmacy@mslc.com](mailto:ncpharmacy@mslc.com) ." Myers and Stauffer (M&S) is the current actuary who maintains these drug prices for Pharmacy and Professional claims. Please contact Myers and Stauffer with any questions or concerns; NCTracks will not be able to assist with these issues.

11. A County Health Department may not offer services to Health department employees free of charge if they charge all other clients, including other county employees. The employees and/ or their families should be assessed and charged the same way the HD charges the general public. If county government contracts with the HD to provide an "employee clinic for acute care and or preventive care" then the HD can work out a contract with the county on how the county wants to compensate the HD for the care they provide. A HD doing this kind of work needs to keep the 2 business models separate and auditable.

12. Will Medicaid pay for more than one preventive medicine code per 365 days?  
Yes, but only in certain circumstances.

- The child Medicaid beneficiary (0-up to 21) can get a FP and a EP well child physical both within 365 days
- An adult Regular Medicaid beneficiary may get a FP and an OB physical, or an
- AH annual assessment and an OB assessment, or an
- AH and a FP physical

**as long as one of the 2 physical assessments has a modifier.**

- There is no modifier for Adult Health annual assessment therefore submission of **two** AH physicals within 365 days would cause the last service to reject.

However, if for some reason a Medicaid client desires a 2<sup>nd</sup> physical in a 365 day time period that does not fall into the combinations described above then the local health department may either provide that service at no cost to the individual by discounting the service to “0” or they may place the client on the appropriate sliding fee scale based on income and charge the client.

Clients with BeSmart Family Planning Medicaid are only eligible for Family Planning related services and should be screened for eligibility like all clients for other health department services.

## Standing Orders

1. Standing Orders must be in place for a nurse to provide or order medical services such as ultrasounds or any other procedure/lab tests not previously ordered for the client by a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner. (Link to the NC Board of Nursing’s document on Standing Orders at:

<http://www.ncbon.com/myfiles/downloads/position-statements-decision-trees/standing-orders.pdf>

You will also find helpful information at: [www.ncpublichealthnursing.org](http://www.ncpublichealthnursing.org)

2. The only level of E/M service that may be billed by an RN is 99211 since they are not allowed to be enrolled with Medicaid and do not have NPI numbers. All visits done by RNs are billed under the NPI of the medical director who signs health department policy/standing orders, writes an order, or writes a prescription.
3. The **Rendering Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner’s** (different than the Billing Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner) NPI is the person who provided the service. If the person who provided the service was an RN or LPN then we use the NPI of the physician who wrote the standing order.
4. The **Billing Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner** (used when filing your claim) NPI is the health department’s NPI. Health Departments also use the health department’s taxonomy code. NCTracks requires each LHD to have a health department NPI.
5. All Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners, (except nurses who are not eligible to obtain an NPI), are required to use their own NPI. Every Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner should get credentialed and obtain an NPI.

Advanced Practice Practitioners do not work under Standing Orders. Only RN's and LPN's work under a physician's Standing Order.

### **Enhanced Role Registered Nurses (ERRN)**

1. If you are using ERRNs and billing 3<sup>rd</sup> party payers, other than Medicaid, make sure that you check and are in compliance with the guidelines consistent with the insurer's supervision and "incident to" definitions. ERRNs must have completed the approved training and be rostered in their specific program. For information on these courses and rostering requirements contact the appropriate Branch in NC DPH.

### **Sliding Fee Scale**

1. A sliding fee scale can be attached to any program type, except STI and TB. Wherever a sliding fee scale is used, it must be consistently applied to all clients.
2. Not every program provided by LHDs must include a sliding fee scale (SFS). When a health department provides Adult Health Primary Care, Other services, it is their choice to apply a SFS (it is not required).
3. Health Department Dental Clinics are required to apply a SFS but it does not have to slide to zero.
4. Some DPH programs require that if their monies are used to provide a service, the fee for that service must slide to zero (e.g. Maternal Health, Family Planning, and Child Health).
5. **Healthy Mothers Healthy Children (HMHC)/Title V (Well Child funding)**

Title V policy on applying sliding fee scale: any client whose income is less than the federal poverty level will not be charged for a service if that service is partly or wholly supported by Title V funds. For clients having income above the federal poverty level, the sliding fee scale of the LHD will be used to determine the percent of client participation in the cost of the service (as per Peter Andersen, (Women's and Children's Health (WCH) Acting Section Chief).

The guidance regarding Title V funding and sliding Child Health services to zero is as follows: Any Maternal and Child Health services (even outside of Child Health Clinics) must use a sliding fee scale that slides to "0" at 100% of the Federal Poverty Level per the NC Administrative Code – 10A NCAC 43B.0109 Client and Third-Party Fees.

The NC Administrative Code goes beyond the Title V/351 AA requirements, that all child health services, whether sick or well, no matter where delivered, must be billed on a sliding fee scale that slides to zero.

## 10A NCAC 43B .0109 CLIENT AND THIRD-PARTY FEES

- (1) If a local provider imposes any charges on clients for maternal and child health services, such charges:
  - (a) Will be applied according to a public schedule of charges;
  - (b) Will not be imposed on low-income individuals or their families;
  - (c) Will be adjusted to reflect the income, resources, and family size of the individual receiving the services.
- (2) If client fees are charged, providers must make reasonable efforts to collect from third party payors.
- (3) Client and third-party fees collected by the local provider for the provision of maternal and child health services must be used, upon approval of the program, to expand, maintain, or enhance these services. No person shall be denied services because of an inability to pay.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-124; Eff. April 1, 1985; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. October 3, 2017*

### Identifying Program Type

1. General Rule” for **Program Type**: What brought the client to the Health Department is the primary reason for that visit. Clients may present with more than one problem. It is up to the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner to determine which problem is driving the visit and to code it to the correct program.

## 2) Changes in the Approval Process for Other Services (OS) and Primary Care (PC) Program Types

Local health departments no longer are required to have OS and PC program types approved by the Local Technical Assistance and Training (LTAT) Branch. This change is a result of the new data collection process, *Local Health Department – Health Services Analysis (LHD-HSA)* which began January 1, 2018. All services can be analyzed based on CPT or HCPCS codes. The Division does however want to be informed when local health departments implement a PC program. LHDs will need to assure the following when implementing a PC program:

- Establish a fee schedule approved by the county governing board,
- Establish policies, procedures and any standing orders that support PC services, inclusive of eligibility and billing,
- Establish a service description, describing the types of services that will be provided in PC,
- Inform your malpractice insurance carrier, and
- Notify Phyllis Rocco at: [phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov) when implementing PC.

Please address questions to your PHNPDU Nursing Consultant.

## Establishing Fees

1. North Carolina law<sup>1</sup> allows a LHD to charge fees for services as long as:
    - Service fees are based on a plan recommended by the Health Director and approved by the Board of Health and the County Commissioners, or the appropriate governing entity;
    - The health department does not provide the service as an agent of the State (i.e. Vaccines for Children (VFC) immunizations); and
    - The fees are not against the law in any way;
- <sup>1</sup>North Carolina General Statute 130A-39(g)
2. How do we set fees?
    - a. Health Department fees are set based on the cost to provide the service. If you need assistance with this process, contact your Administrative Consultant.
    - b. Documentation of the methodology used for setting fees is a required piece of evidence for reaccreditation. Include any minutes from meetings held during the process.
  3. A LHD cannot have a “free” service unless law mandates it, this includes pregnancy testing. Rather than having a “free” service, LHDs should slide those services to “0”, keeping in mind they must comply with program rules which are governed by state and federal guidelines.
  4. One rule to consider when setting fees is that “your charge is your charge”; i.e., you may not vary your charge by payer source but you may accept a variety of reimbursements as full payment for that service (e.g. you might have a charge of \$100 for a service, but accept as full payment: \$92 from Medicaid; \$85 from a particular industry in your community with whom you have negotiated a discounted rate; and \$0, \$20, \$40, \$60, \$80 or \$100 from self-pays, depending on

where they fall on the sliding fee scale.) For exception regarding 340b drugs, please see guidance on page 33.

5. For all women's and children's health services, Administrative Code 15A NCAC 21B .0109 (a)(2) and (3) may apply: "If a local Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner imposes any charges on clients for maternal and child health services, such charges: (1) will not be imposed on low-income individuals or their families; (2) will be adjusted to reflect the income, resources, and family size of the individual receiving the services." (3) This means that, in all cases for WCH Programs, the sliding fee scale must be applied and it must slide to zero (\$0.00). Services may not be denied due to an unwillingness/inability to pay.
6. Charges for the same **procedure/test** would be the same fee regardless of the Program type. For example, an 81025-pregnancy test would have the same fee in Family Planning (FP), Maternal Health (MH) and Other Services (OS) because it is a standard service with no variation in the degree of complexity. There are a few exceptions to this rule such as contracted rates and programmatic regulations specific to each program.
7. Situations may exist where LHDs must bill services to Medicaid one way and third-party insurance a different way. Example: STI & TB - LHD may bill a T1002 to Medicaid and some third-party insurers. Some third-party insurers only accept 99211. Verify with each insurance carrier which codes they accept.
8. Standard Fee (formerly Flat Fees)- A number of factors influence whether a LHD may apply a standard to a service provided in the health department:
  - the description of the service;
  - whether the service is provided to individuals with Medicaid coverage, third party insurance and/or self-pays;
  - whether third-party payers cover the service and how it must be billed;
  - the Program in which the service is provided;
  - relevant statutes and Administrative Code; and
  - the requirements of specific types of funds
9. There should not be 3 different fees/charges for billing 340b medications or devices. You should follow the guidance below:
  - LHDs are required to bill Medicaid the acquisition cost of medication or devices purchased via the 340b drug program. Therefore, their fee/rate for Medicaid must be the purchase cost.
  - LHDs may charge insurances and self-pay clients at a different fee/rate than what they charge Medicaid for the same medications or devices purchased via the 340b drug program.
  - LHDs may choose to charge Medicaid and insurance the acquisition cost of medications or devices purchased via the 340b drug program.



- However, LHDs (due to Title X funding) are required to slide the fee/rate of the medication or device on the SFS for all self-pay Family Planning clients.
10. As a reminder, Boards of Health, County Commissioners or other governing entities are required to approve the establishment of all fees and must approve any changes. Authority may not be conveyed to the Health Department or Health Director to approve any fees or fee changes.

## ICD Coding Resources

- NC DPH/ For Local Health Departments  
<http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/icd10/training.htm>
- 5 Steps:  
ICD-10 Quick Start Guide, which is an awesome new FREE resource from our friends at CMS. This guide can help streamline your implementation plan no matter where you are in the ICD-10 transition process. (Ctrl + left mouse click to follow hyperlink.)  
<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/Downloads/ICD10QuickStartGuide20150622.pdf>
- For rural and small practices:  
<http://www.roadto10.org>

# Program Specific Guidelines

## Child Health (CH)

1. It is very important to check the Health Check Program Guide (HCPG) found on the following page: [Health Check Program Guide](#) published by the NC Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) Refer to the current Health Check Program Guide, Periodicity Schedule and Coding Guide as well as foot notes for guidance regarding comprehensive history, physical assessment, vision screening, hearing screening, nutrition assessment, anemia risk assessment, newborn metabolic/sickle cell screening, TB risk assessment, sexually transmitted infections/diseases, anticipatory guidance, referral/follow-up/plan of care.
2. Child Health Periodic and Inter-periodic visits (well child/preventive health care) and sick visits (primary care) are all coded to Child Health (CH) program type in Health Information System (HIS) regardless of payor source. Problem-focused sick visits can now be provided on the same day as a well child/preventive care. A 25 modifier must be used for the sick problem focused visit to indicate it is a separate billable service on the same date of service as the well child/preventive health care visit. Provider documentation must support billing of both services and providers must create separate notes for each service rendered to document medical necessity. As a reminder, the EP modifier must be used for most components of the Periodic and Inter-periodic well visits when the payor source is Medicaid. EP modifier is an abbreviation for EPSDT, (Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, & Treatment) which is administered by Medicaid to provide services to beneficiaries under age 21. It is allowable to append the EP modifier for all payor sources except Health Choice to be consistent and avoid confusion for staff even though it is not required for third party insurance. Health Choice requires the TJ modifier to be appended for most components of the Periodic and Inter-periodic well visits. Do not use TJ modifier when billing Medicaid for Family Planning services rendered to Health Choice covered children. This issue has now been corrected by NCTracks and you should receive the correct reimbursement.

The EP modifier must be included on most of the components for the periodic and inter-periodic visit types including:

- immunization administration, (but not vaccine product codes)

- vision,
- hearing,
- maternal postpartum depression screening
- developmental screenings
- autism screenings
- screening for emotional/behavioral problems
- screening for adolescent health risks
- Other screening-related services for adolescents (i.e., smoking and tobacco cessation counseling, alcohol and/or substance abuse structured screening and brief intervention services)

EP is a required modifier for these Health Check claim details but not to be used with laboratory services and vaccine products (except point of care lead analyzer testing). **NOTE: See the HCPG for a list of all components required in order to bill periodic or inter-periodic services. Please be sure to enter all reportable services when a Health Check visit occurs.**

3. Child Health (CH) program type in HIS includes Periodic and Inter-periodic well child/preventive services as well as E/M problem/sick (primary care) visit codes and other related services provided at those visits. The sliding fee schedule must be applied to any services coded to CH Program Type. **Please be sure to enter all reportable services under program CH when a Child Health visit occurs. The HC Program Type was retired on April 1, 2016 due to the HC Program Type only recognizing ICD-9 Codes.**
4. Completion of Forms:  
The CPT code 99080 may be able to be reimbursed when Physicians or Advanced Practice Practitioners complete a form for administrative purposes such as for sports physical or a school health assessment. If a form is presented during the visit for completion, it should be considered a part of the visit and the client would not be charged for completion of the form. In this case, the CPT code 99080 would be “reported” and the client would not be charged. If the form is brought in later for completion, agencies could charge for the service using the CPT code 99080. Since most insurance companies will not pay this code, agencies need to inform clients that this is a non-covered service, and they may be responsible for the charge. This code is not reimbursable by Medicaid.
5. Laboratory services:  
Medicaid will not reimburse separately for routine laboratory tests (Hemoglobin/Hematocrit and TB skin test) when performed during a Health Check early periodic screening visit. Other laboratory tests, including, but not limited to, blood lead screening, dyslipidemia screening,

pregnancy testing, urinalysis, and sexually transmitted disease screening for sexually active youth, may be performed and billed when medically necessary. <http://dma.ncdhhs.gov/medicaid/get-started/find-programs-and-services/health-check-and-epsdt>. There must be documented symptoms or identified risks (based on history or physical exam) to bill for any additional labs (as part of a Periodic or Inter-periodic well child/preventive visit or as part of a sick/problem visit that may be provided on the same day as a preventive service). It must be supported with an appropriate ICD-10 code to explain why the service is being provided/requested, and the appropriate CPT code for the laboratory service must also be included.

6. Same Day Health Check Wellness Visits and Sick Child (E/M) Encounters:  
When Medicaid beneficiaries under 21 years of age receiving a Periodic or Inter-periodic visit also *require* evaluation and management of a problem focused complaint, the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner may deliver all medically necessary care and submit a claim for both the preventive service (CPT 9938x / 9939x) and the appropriate level of E/M service (CPT 9920x/9921x). However, another option is to have the CHERRN document and bill for the well child/preventive visit if the CHERRN can complete the full well visit with all components and the Physician or APP complete a separate note for the sick visit and bill for that sick visit.

Beginning with services rendered after July 1, 2016, the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner need not submit additional documentation of medical necessity to the fiscal agent to reprocess a claim for the service rendered to treat the focused problem. All requirements in this section regarding documentation of the additional, focused service must be adhered to by the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner.

*The E/M service must report only the additional time required above and beyond the completion of the Periodic or Inter-periodic well visit to address the focused complaint.* The Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner's electronic signature on the claim is the attestation of the medical necessity of both services if the Physician or AAP provides both services. However, if the CHERRN can complete the well child visit the Physician or APP needs to just sign for the sick visit completed on that same day.

*Requirements for providing Preventive and Focused Problem (E/M) care same day:*

- Provider documentation **must** support billing of both services. CHERRN and/or Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners **must** create separate notes for each service rendered to document medical necessity.
- In deciding on appropriate E/M level of service rendered, only activity performed “above and beyond” that already performed during the **Health Check** wellness visit is to be used to calculate the additional level of E/M service. If any portion of the history or exam was performed to satisfy the preventive service, that same portion of work should not be used to calculate the additional level of E/M service.
- All elements supporting the additional E/M service must be apparent to an outside reader/reviewer.
- The note documenting the focused (E/M) encounter should contain a separate history of present illness (HPI) paragraph and additional review of systems paragraph that clearly describes the specific condition requiring evaluation and management.
- The documentation must clearly list in the assessment the acute/chronic condition(s) being managed at the time of the encounter.

**Modifier 25** must be appended to the appropriate E/M code. Modifier 25 indicates that the client’s condition required *a significant, separately identifiable E/M service* above and beyond the other service provided.

## 7. Screenings

Developmental screening:

- In NC Developmental screenings are to be done at 6 month, 12 month, 18 month or 24 months and ages 3, 4, and 5 years visits using the ASQ-3, PEDS or other AAP recommended developmental screening tool which can be found at: [Bright Futures Developmental Screening Tools](#)
- Physician, CHEERN or Advanced Practice Practitioners should bill and report CPT code 96110 and EP modifier;
- CPT code 96110 can now be billed up to a maximum of two units per visit for children 5 years of age and younger; additional revenue is generated when completed, documented appropriately in the medical record and billed.

Screening for Autism Spectrum Disorders:

- Screening for autism spectrum disorders is required at 18 and 24 months of age using a validated screening tool,
- AAP recommended tools for screening for autism can be found at: [Bright Futures Developmental Screening Tools](#)

- M-CHAT and M-CHAT Revised with Follow-Up (M-CHAT R/F is preferred) are the most commonly used validated screening tools used to identify children who are at risk for autism spectrum disorders and can be used for children between 16 and 30 months of age (which allows for catch up of screening if the 18 or 24-month visit is missed) Providers may screen for developmental risk at ages greater than 30 months when the provider or caregiver has concerns about the child. The structured screening tool should be validated for the child's chronological age. One example of the screening tool that can be used for ages greater than 30 months of age is the Screening Tool for Autism in Toddlers and Young Children (STAT).
- Physician, CHEERN or Advanced Practice Practitioners will bill CPT code 96110 and EP modifier; additional revenue is generated when completed documented appropriately in the medical record and billed;

#### Screening for maternal postpartum depression:

- Examples of brief screening tools used on the caregiver of the infant (mother) include the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale, Client Health Questionnaire 2 - PHQ-2 (if positive should be followed by the PHQ-9) and PHQ-9 the EP and 25 modifiers with CPT 96160
- **On and after January 1, 2017 use CPT 96161 administration of caregiver-focused health risk assessment instrument for benefit of the client, with scoring and documentation per standardized instrument; (e.g., health hazard appraisal),**
- When CPT 96161 is billed with CPT code 96127, modifier 59 must be added to the EP modifier combination table, and the EP modifier to the 59 modifier combination table.
- See the updated CCNC guidance document about maternal depression screening available at: <https://www.communitycarenc.org/pediatric-essentials/>

#### Screening for Emotional/Behavioral Health Risks:

- CPT code 96127 should be used to report the administration of a structured screen for emotional and behavioral health risks on the client, including ADHD (i.e., Vanderbilt), depression (i.e., PHQ-2, PHQ-9, Client Health Questionnaire Modified for Adolescents), suicidal risk, anxiety (i.e., SCARED), substance abuse (brief screen only), and eating disorders when their use is indicated by guidelines of clinical best practice and surveillance.
- A brief screen alone (CRAFT) is to be reported and billed using CPT 96127 when no (or minimal counseling) is done

- This means that if the CRAFFT is administered and the score is less than 2, then minimal or no counseling is recommended by the developers of the tool. According to the tool instructions counseling for a negative score of 0 or 1 requires about 5 minutes of counseling.
- The ASQ:SE-2 can be used to screen for emotional/behavioral risks for infants and young children and must be billed using CPT code 96127.
- The Pediatric Symptom Checklist (PSC) or Pediatric Symptom Checklist for Youth (PSC-Y) can be used to screen for emotional/behavioral risks for school age children and adolescents. A Physician, CHEERN or Advanced Practice Practitioner can decide that using a PSC or Y-PSC would be beneficial to further assess positive risk factors that were identified in the HEEADSSS. CPT code 96127 must be used to bill for the PSC or PSC-Y.
- If the PHQ-2 or PHQ-9 is used to screen the client for an emotional/behavioral health risk (not the caregiver) then the 96127 CPT code should be used.
- Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners will bill CPT code 96127 and EP modifier to a maximum of two units per visit; if completed and billed this can generate additional revenue;
- When CPT 96161 is billed with CPT code 96127, modifier 59 must be added to the EP modifier combination table, and the EP modifier to the 59 modifier combination table.
- Brief screens should be used only to identify risk for presence of an emotional/behavioral problem. The use of a brief screen to assess or change an already diagnosed mental health condition or illness is not supported or recommended by CPT, AAP or CMS.
- The AAP recommends the following table with examples of validated emotional/behavioral risk tools: [https://www.aap.org/en-use/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/Mental-Health/Documents/MH\\_ScreeningChart.pdf](https://www.aap.org/en-use/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/Mental-Health/Documents/MH_ScreeningChart.pdf)
- Q&A from March Coding & Billing Guidance Document update:
  - Q. Does Health Choice require the provider to use the TJ modifier for a well child visit as HCPG requires for the EP modifier?
    - Per guidance received from NC DMA, Health Choice would require the use of a TJ modifier in the place of when the EP Modifier is used.
    - Per the HCPG, when CPT code 96160/EP or 96161/EP are billed with CPT Code 96127/EP, modifier 59 must be appended to

96160/96161. Would the same hold true for Health Choice, except the provider would use the TJ Modifier?

- Per guidance received from NC DMA, Health Choice would require the use of the TJ modifier in the place of when the EP Modifier is used as well as appending the modifier 59 when CPT Code 96160 or 96161 are billed with CPT Code 96127.

## Immunizations

- All necessary immunizations must be administered by the billing provider delivering the Health Check periodic or inter-periodic Well Child care exam. The immunization portion of the well child visit *may not be referred to another provider*, i.e. a private practice. **It is not appropriate for a Well Child Care Visit to be provided in one location, and child referred to another location for immunizations.**
- In addition, other pediatric practices who are providing well child visits to Medicaid clients should not be deferring immunizations during well visits in their practice and referring these children to local health departments for their immunizations.

The most current *Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 through 18: United States*, approved by the **Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)**, **American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)**, and the **American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)** may be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>

Documentation for immunizations in the record may include:

- Paper chart: Include a copy of updated NCIR printout
- EHR: Note immunizations reviewed and up to date, or immunizations reviewed and needed, and reference NCIR  
Example: Immunizations reviewed, needs 6-month vaccines, see NCIR
- If required immunizations are not given, the reason must be documented and a plan to administer vaccines as soon as possible must be noted in the record.
- Children with medical and religious exemptions should have documentation in the chart
- When an immunization administration accompanies a preventive service visit, the preventive service CPT (9938x / 9939x) must appear with a '25'



modifier on the claim form. Without modifier '25', these coding combinations will cause the claim to deny per CCI edit;

- Must use ICD 10 CPT code Z.23 as one of the diagnosis codes.

## Screening for Adolescent Health Risks

### HEEADSSS Adolescent Health Risk Assessment:

- The HEEADSSS is part of the Bright Futures tools and must be used for adolescents starting at age 11 years and up to age 21 years of age
- The pre-visit questionnaire is not the HEEADSSS but should be reviewed to identify risks and determine clarifying questions to be asked as part of the HEEADSSS
- **Providers administering the HEEADSSS must use CPT code 96160 which is administration of client-focused health risk assessment instrument (e.g., 'health hazard appraisal'), with scoring and documentation per standardized instrument**
- Medicaid reimburses providers for CPT code 96160 to a maximum of two units per visit.
- When 96160 is billed with CPT code 96127: modifier 59 must be added to the EP modifier combination table, and the EP modifier to the 59-modifier combination table

### Alcohol and Substance Abuse Screening and Brief Intervention (i.e., CRAFFT):

- The CRAFFT is a validated screening tool and is part of the Bright Futures tools.
- Physician, CHEERN or Advanced Practice Practitioners would use the CRAFFT screening tool if any positive risk factors for alcohol/substance abuse were identified in the HEEADSSS screening tool or in any other way during the visit.
- - 15 -30 minutes CHERRN's can also bill this code but ideally should have received training in brief intervention and counseling related to alcohol and substance use.

- The Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner will bill CPT Code 99409 plus EP and 25 modifiers for a CRAFFT with 2 positive risk factors for alcohol and/or substance (other than tobacco) abuse structured screening and brief intervention services/referral; greater than 30 minutes.
- Additional revenue is generated if completed and billed;
- The Physician, CHEERN or Advanced Practice Practitioner should not bill for the CRAFFT using the CPT code 99408 if there is less than a score of 2 (i.e. Score of 0 or 1) which would require minimal or no counseling. In this case, the CPT code 96127 would be used.
- Providers may bill 99408 or 99409 codes (with 25 and EP modifiers) only when alcohol and/or substance abuse screening is done, AND counseling is provided directly to the beneficiary
- As with any screen, the provider must document the screening tool used (i.e., CRAFFT), the results of the screening tool (score), the discussion with parents, and any referrals made.

#### Smoking and Tobacco Use Cessation and Counseling:

- The Physician, CHEERN or Advanced Practice Practitioner can bill CPT code 99406 and use the EP and 25 modifiers if at least 3-10 minutes of counseling has been provided to the client.
- The Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner can bill CPT code 99407 and EP and 25 modifiers if greater than 10 minutes of more intensive counseling has been provided to the client.
- Providers may bill the 99406 or 99407 codes (with 25 and EP modifiers during well visits) only when counseling is provided directly to the beneficiary. Counseling cannot be billed if provided to the parent/guardian instead of the client. EERNs must document receipt of training using the 5A's or CEASE.
- Providers should always include documentation in the beneficiary's medical record noting the intervention (i.e., 5A's), client response (i.e., contemplating quitting) and status, follow up plan and referrals (i.e., referral to NC Quit Line)

#### 8. Dental Screenings:

An oral screening must be performed at every *Health Check* well child visit. In addition, referral to a dentist to establish a dental home is *recommended* for every child by age one and *required* beginning at age three. The initial dental referral must be provided unless it is known that the child already has a dental home. An oral health

risk assessment is recommended for all young children at well visits until age 3 years. LHDs use Bright Futures questions that ask about presence of a dental home and oral health risk factors earlier than age 3 years. When any screening indicates a need for dental services, referrals must be made (are required) for needed dental services and documented in the child's medical record OR an explanation for why a referral to a dentist is not able to be made and a plan of care to address any acute issues. For example, when a family of a child at 1 year of age is asked about the presence of a dental home, and the family responds that the child does not have a dental home, the provider must make a referral or indicate why a referral cannot be made to a dental home (i.e., no dental providers in the area will see the client). The initial dental referral must be provided unless it is known that the child already has a dental home. An oral health risk assessment is recommended for all young children at well visits until age 3 ½ years. Oral risk screening tools include either the NC *Priority Oral Risk and Referral Tool* (PORRT) or the *Bright Futures Oral Health Risk Tool*. When any screening indicates a need for dental services at an early age, referrals must be made for needed dental services and documented in the child's medical record. The NC Oral Health periodicity schedule for dental examinations, found in this section, *is a separate and independent schedule for regular dental care for children.*

**Note:** Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners who perform a Health Check screening assessment and dental varnishing may bill for both services. Application of dental varnishing is not a required Health Check Well Child visit component. For billing codes and guidelines, refer to Clinical Coverage Policy # 1A-23, Physician Fluoride Varnish Services, on DMA's website at: <https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/1A23.pdf>

9. Additional Billing Guidelines:

- Providers must indicate referrals using Z00.121 "Encounter for routine child health examination with abnormal findings," along with the diagnosis code attributed to the finding to ensure proper tracking of referrals.
- Use ICD 10-CM Coding for all services provided after 10/1/2015.
- Capillary blood draws are considered incidental to *Health Check Early Periodic Screening* and should not be billed.
- CPT Code for Venous Blood Draws: Report 36415 for *Venous* blood draw when an external laboratory analysis is required. Capillary blood draws are considered incidental to the Health Check well child visit.
- Report CPT 96161 for Maternal Depression Screens/First Year of Life administered to caregiver for benefit of infant and CPG 96160 for Adolescent Risk Screens. When billing CPT code 96160 and/or CPT code 96161 with CPT

- 96127, please add modifier 59 to the EP modifier combination table and the EP modifier to the 59 modifier combination table.
- Refer to the current Health Check Program Guide Periodicity Schedule and Coding Guide and foot notes for additional guidance

#### **10. How to bill when Child Health and Family Planning services interface**

If the reason for visit is for a well child exam but the client presents also wanting FP services, the visit is billed as follows:

- Bill the Well Child Exam along with all required components under the CH program type. The CH portion of the visit would be documented using the CH templates whether in EHR or paper format.
- REPORT all the FP portions of the visit, assuring that all required FP components have been completed. The FP portion of the visit would be documented using the FP templates whether in EHR or paper format.
- To offer 340B medications, the visit must be documented separately so that it is clear a FP visit has been made therefore establishing the client in FP.
- Document using a separate encounter form.
- If the reason for visit is for FP services but the client is also in need of their CH visit, the visit is billed as follows:
  - REPORT the Well Child Exam along with all required components under the CH program type. The CH portion of the visit would be documented using the CH templates whether in EHR or paper format.
  - Bill all the FP portions of the visit, assuring that all required FP components have been completed. The FP portion of the visit would be documented using the FP templates whether in EHR or paper format.
  - To offer 340B medications, the visit must be documented separately so that it is clear a FP visit has been made therefore establishing the client in FP.
  - Document using a separate encounter form.

#### **General Reminders**

- 340B drug eligibility requires that the client be a registered FP client.
- If a client is seen for FP services, all the assessments and education are completed and separately documented (separate from the CH documentation) and an encounter reflects that the client received FP services, then the client should be able to receive 340B drugs, even if the encounter is entered as “report only.”
- Assure all CH service components are provided.
- DO NOT try to document both visits on the same program template. Neither the CH or FP templates are structured to comply with both program requirements.

- The following information must be shared related to the provision of family planning services during a Health Check or Child Health visit:
  - General information that includes the health benefits of abstinence, and the risks and benefits of all contraceptive options;
  - Specific information related to the adolescent's contraceptive choice including effective use, benefits, and efficacy of the method, and possible side effects or complications;
  - Benefits of dual-method use (for example, condoms for STI prevention and a second method of contraception);
  - How to discontinue the method selected and information on backup methods and emergency contraception;
  - Emergency 24-hour number and location where emergency services can be obtained;
  - At subsequent visits, review this information with the recipient.

#### 11. HMHC/Title V (Child Health funding)

Title V policy on applying sliding fee scale: any client whose income is at or less than 100% of the federal poverty level will not be charged for a service if that service is partly or wholly supported by Title V funds. For clients having income above the federal poverty level, the sliding fee scale of the LHD will be used to determine the percent of client participation in the cost of the service (per Peter Andersen, WCH Acting Section Chief). This means that all services for children MUST slide using the appropriate SFS.

The guidance regarding Title V funding and sliding Child Health services to zero is as follows: Any Maternal and Child Health services (even outside of Child Health Clinics) must use a sliding fee scale that slides to "0" at 100% of the Federal Poverty Level per the NC Administrative Code – 10A NCAC 43B.0109 Client and Third Party Fees.

The NC Administrative Code goes beyond the Title V/351 AA requirements, that all child health services, whether sick or well, no matter where delivered, must be billed on a sliding fee scale that slides to zero.

#### **10A NCAC 43B .0109 CLIENT AND THIRD-PARTY FEES**

- (1) If a local provider imposes any charges on clients for maternal and child health services, such charges:
  - (a) Will be applied according to a public schedule of charges;

- (b) Will not be imposed on low-income individuals or their families;
  - (c) Will be adjusted to reflect the income, resources, and family size of the individual receiving the services.
- (2) If client fees are charged, providers must make reasonable efforts to collect from third party payors.
- (3) Client and third-party fees collected by the local provider for the provision of maternal and child health services must be used, upon approval of the program, to expand, maintain, or enhance these services.
- No person shall be denied services because of an inability to pay.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-124; Eff. April 1, 1985; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. October 3, 2017*

## 11. Billing Sports Physicals

**From:** Rocco, Phyllis M  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 19, 2017 6:59 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Billing Sports Physicals  
**Importance:** High

Good Afternoon:

Questions have re-surfaced regarding billing sports physicals. I want to again take an opportunity to summarize our guidance regarding how to provide and bill sports physicals.

The term, "Flat fee" is really a misnomer (in all fairness to LHDs, that term has been used widely by DPH and others with varying degrees of meaning). There really is no such fee as a "flat fee." LHDs have one fee for each CPT code. That fee either slides or is paid in full depending on the program requirements. In the past, providers conducted an "abbreviated sports physical". However, after clinical record reviews by nurse consultants from this Branch and the Children and Youth Branch these physicals were frequently found to be out of compliance with the standard of care, programmatic requirements and/or the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommendations. Therefore, the LU Code(LU208) for this service was retired on 1/15/15.

To determine a charge for a sports physical the agencies must first state in policy, which service components are required to assure a child is "cleared medically for sports participation". This policy should be based on AAP and Child Health program requirements. The second step is determining a charge. There are no "short cuts" to providing this service. There is no such CPT service definition for an "abbreviated sports physical." The standards of care must be followed. These visits can be billed to Medicaid as either a periodic or inter-periodic visit and to insurance companies using a preventive medicine code by age or an evaluation and management code (99201 – 99205 or 99212 – 99215). To be reimbursed, providers must complete all components per the most current Health Check Program Guide (HCPG) and the 351 AA Child

Health Contract. The Enhanced Role Child Health Nurse may not perform a “sports physical” as it is outside the scope of nursing practice.

Please contact your regional Child Health Nursing Consultant for assistance in assuring your service description for a sports physical meets the requirements.

Also, I am attaching the two memoranda that were sent out in 2015 with guidance on how to bill various physicals including sports physicals when we retired many of the LU Codes used to bill these services. The content is still accurate with one exception. Please note, the *LU Code Set Cross Walk Document* dated April 6, 2015 directs the reader to Jean Vukoson who is retired. **Tara Lucas is the new State Child Health Nurse Consultant with the Division of Public Health, Children & Youth Branch. Ms. Lucas may be reached at: [tara.lucas@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:tara.lucas@dhhs.nc.gov)**

Our Documentation, Coding and Billing Guidance Document Part II also lists guidance on the matter. This document is located at: [http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/docs/REVISED-03-2017-](http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/docs/REVISED-03-2017-CodingandBillingGuidanceDocument.pdf)

[CodingandBillingGuidanceDocument.pdf](http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/docs/REVISED-03-2017-CodingandBillingGuidanceDocument.pdf) (Pages 12- 13). Below is the excerpted section from the document. Please see highlighted sections below. I will request the “Flat Fee” language be removed at the next revision of the document because there is just one fee, which either slides or does not slide depending on the billing rules defined by state and federal guidelines.

#### **“Identifying Program Type**

1. “General Rule” for **Program Type**: What brought the client to the Health Department is the primary reason for that visit. Clients may present with more than one problem. It is up to the *Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner* to determine which problem is driving the visit and to code it to the correct program.

~~2. Other Services (OS) program type and codes used within the program must be requested using the appropriate form and be approved by the LTAT Branch Head. This program is generally used for services that are billed at a flat rate. Services that you want to offer at a flat rate and that are not associated with another program can be billed under the OS program with approval of the LTAT Branch Head. **Note: If these services are billed to Medicaid or third-party payers, the same flat rate must be billed to them all.** This cannot be used to circumvent sliding to zero for services for program guidelines that require the use of a sliding fee scale.~~

#### ~~3. Primary Care (PC)~~

~~Children PC program type must be requested using the appropriate form and approved by the LTAT Branch Head, Phyllis Rocco. Services in this program must slide to zero for services to children. Adult PC program type must be requested using the appropriate form and approved by the LTAT Branch Head, Phyllis Rocco. Services in this program do not have to slide to zero; it is a health department decision. Primary Care Services Request Form”~~

If you have any questions, I can’t stress enough the importance of contacting your regional Child Health Nursing Consultant for assistance.

Thank you. pmr

**For additional program guidance, please contact your Regional Child Health Consultant or visit the program website at <http://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dph/wch/aboutus/childreneyouth.htm>**

## 12. Health Choice:

The North Carolina Health Choice (NCHC) Health Insurance Program for Children is a comprehensive health coverage program for low-income children. It is not Medicaid. The goal of the NCHC Program is to reduce the number of uninsured children in the State. If a family makes too much money to qualify for Medicaid, but too little to afford third party or employer-sponsored health insurance, they may qualify for NCHC.

When billing NCHC, you should follow your procedures for billing third-party insurance programs. Health Choice claims must be billed using the **TJ** modifier.

NCTracks has indicated that they will no longer require the TJ modifier for NC Health Choice Family Planning clients. **The claims should only require an FP modifier and should pay at the usual rate** instead of \$90. We have not been able to verify that this fix is working properly.



## Immunization Program

1. It is very important to check the Health Check Program Guide published by NC DMA
2. Services to clients seen only for immunizations services should be coded to Immunization Program
3. If a client presents for services in a program other than immunizations (e.g. CH, FP, MH, etc.) and receives immunizations (required as per Agreement Addenda or recommended), the immunizations should be coded to the program which brought them in that day. Remember that immunizations coded to CH, FP and MH programs are subject to sliding fee scale.
4. Use of NDC identifiers when billing/reporting 340b drugs/devices and Immunizations:

Excerpt from NC Tracks Bulletin March 29, 2018:

ALL providers are required to submit the appropriate NDC that corresponds to the physician administered LARCs and Vaccines used for administration and corresponding procedure code as the new pricing is based on a procedure code/NDC match. If the procedure code/NDC combination is not found, the claim line will deny and post EOB 02047: "RATE NOT FOUND. CONTACT THE M&S HELPDESK AT (1-800-591-1183) or email at [ncpharmacy@mslc.com](mailto:ncpharmacy@mslc.com) Myers and Stauffer (M&S) is the current actuary who maintains these drug prices for Pharmacy and Professional claims. Please contact Myers and Stauffer with any questions or concerns; NCTracks will not be able to assist with these issues.

5. Immunization Administration (for Child Health/Health Check)
  - Administration Codes
    - Effective with date of service July 1, 2011, the ONLY immunization administration codes covered for Medicaid recipients in the Health Check age range, 0 through 20 years of age, are CPT codes 90471 through 90474.

- Claims billed with CPT immunization administration codes 90460 and 90461 (effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2011, for Medicaid recipients through 18 years of age) on and after July 1, 2011, will deny.
- Append modifier EP (Health Check) to all CPT immunization administration codes billed for Medicaid recipients in the Health Check age range, 0 through 20 years of age.
- Append the TJ modifier to all CPT immunization administration codes billed for Health Choice recipients in the Health Check range, 0 through 20 years of age.
- Do NOT append the EP or TJ modifier to the CPT vaccine product codes.
- When billing Medicaid do NOT report the National Drug Code (NDC) with the CPT vaccine product code. However, Tricare, United Health Care and potentially others, requires NDC numbers to be included when billing for vaccines.
- All the units billed for CPT codes 90471EP/TJ, 90472EP/TJ, 90473EP/TJ and 90474EP/TJ must be billed on ONE detail to avoid duplicate audit denials.
  - Administration of one injectable vaccine is billed with CPT code 90471 (one unit) with the **EP** modifier.
  - Additional injectable immunization administrations are billed with CPT code 90472 with the **EP** modifier. The appropriate number of units must be billed for each additional immunization administration CPT procedure code, with the total charge for all units reflected on the detail.
  - Currently, 90474EP cannot be billed with 90473EP because there are no two oral/intranasal vaccines that would be given to a recipient. Only one unit of either 90473EP/TJ or 90474EP/TJ is allowed.
- CPT vaccine codes for the vaccines administered **must** be reported or billed, as appropriate, even if administration codes are not being billed. Remember to use the SL modifier when reporting state vaccines.
- **For Medicaid recipients 21 years of age and older (above the Health Check age range), the immunization administration codes have not changed. Bill the series of CPT codes 90471 through 90474 without the EP or TJ modifier.**
- Refer to individual bulletin articles on specific vaccines for additional billing guidelines.
- Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners must use purchased vaccines for Health Check beneficiaries ages 19 and 20, who (because of their age) are not routinely eligible for NCIP/VFC vaccines. When purchased vaccine is administered to this age group, Medicaid will reimburse Physician or

Advanced Practice Practitioners for the vaccine product and the administration fee.

- Note that some NCIP vaccines may be administered to recipients ages 19 and older, in which case Medicaid will cover the administration fee. Any time an NCIP vaccine is provided, the CPT vaccine code must be reported with \$0.00.
- Medicaid clients 21 years of age and over are responsible for the \$3.00 copay when they receive immunizations.
- Immunization billing guidelines are located in the Health Check Program Guide

- **Denials for Preventive Medicine Codes Billed with Immunization Administration Services: (NCTracks Newsletter March 17, 2016)**

Recent system updates resulted in NCCI edit denials (EOB 49270 - NCCI EDIT) of preventive medicine service codes submitted with EP modifier only and reported in conjunction with immunization administration service(s). These are accurate NCCI edit denials.

CMS billing guidelines indicate Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners may use modifier 25 with modifier EP or modifier TJ for preventive medicine service codes (99381 - 99397 and additional screening codes 99406-99409 and 96160) when reported in conjunction with immunization administrative services (90460-99474). Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners may submit corrected replacement claims if appropriate. Do not use TJ modifier when billing Medicaid for Family Planning services rendered to Health Choice covered children. This issue has now been corrected by NCTracks and you should receive the correct reimbursement.

- Modifier 25 may be used with other non-preventive medicine E/M services when reported in conjunction with immunization administration when the E/M service is significant and separately identifiable. Exception: If a vaccine is billed with the same date of service as code 99211, NCCI edits do not permit the E/M code to be reimbursed. CMS has stated that an E/M code should not be billed in addition to the administration code(s) when the beneficiary presents for vaccine(s) only.
- “SL” Modifier- Beginning July 1, 2016, please add “SL” modifier to all state supplied vaccines billed or reported.

## 6. Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program

- The North Carolina Immunization Program works in conjunction with the federal vaccine supply program, called the VFC program, to provide vaccines free of cost to health care Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners across the state.
- Participating health care Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners must administer these vaccines according to NC Immunization Program (NCIP guidelines).
- Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners may not charge clients for the cost of the vaccines, but they can charge an administration fee for each state-supplied vaccine given in an encounter. The administration fee may not exceed the rate established by the state's Medicaid program.
- As of October 1, 2012, all state supplied vaccines appropriate for adults are to be used only for the uninsured adult. An adult is anyone 19 or older. Medicaid clients 21 years of age and older are responsible for the \$3.00 copay when they receive immunizations. There is never a co-pay for a Medicaid beneficiary under 21 years of age who are Medicaid or Medicare recipients are considered covered, or insured, for this purpose.) Details on which clients are currently covered by NCIP vaccine may be found at: <http://www.immunize.nc.gov/providers/coveragecriteria.htm>
- Health Departments must have a mechanism in place so that clinical staff can make the correct decision regarding VFC and Non-VFC eligible clients – who should receive state vaccine and who should receive purchased vaccine.
- Medicaid beneficiaries who are VFC age (0 through 18) are automatically eligible for VFC vaccine; regardless as to whether they are dually covered by Medicaid and another insurance plan. However, CDC recommends that Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners ask the family their preference; if they want their insurance billed; privately purchased vaccine must be used. The decision should be whatever is least costly to the client.
- An administration fee can be billed for Immunizations provided by VFC but you must follow the eligibility guidelines sent out by the Immunization program, including the rule that no one under 200% of the Federal Poverty Level may be charged. This would require financial eligibility be performed each time the client presents for immunizations in order to appropriately apply this rule. The vaccine code must be reported in order to get paid for the administration fee.
- **NOTE: Clients may not be charged a fee higher than the Medicaid reimbursement rate for the administration fee, and the fee must be waived if the client expresses an inability to pay the administration fee.**

- Health Choice\* beneficiaries are considered *insured*; therefore, they are not eligible for VFC vaccines, with one exception. Health Choice beneficiaries who are American Indian or Alaska Native are entitled to VFC vaccines—Health Choice will only reimburse an administration fee for these beneficiaries. Refer to individual Health Choice articles in the general Medicaid Bulletin and the Health Check Program Guide, for details regarding the NCHC eligibility groups and the billing and claims processing of Health Choice claims.

\*Health Choice is a comprehensive health coverage program for low-income children; it is not Medicaid. Children whose family income is too high to qualify for Medicaid and too low to afford third party insurance may be eligible for Health Choice.

## 7. Purchased Vaccines

- Health Check beneficiaries that are 19 & 20 years of age are **not** eligible for VFC vaccines, so the physician or advanced practice practitioner must use purchased vaccines for this age group
- Per the 2016 Health Check Billing Guide the physician or advanced practice practitioners must use purchased vaccines for this age group and bill Medicaid for the cost of the vaccine and the vaccine administration fee
- Once a Medicaid recipient reaches the age of 21 years or older they are no longer eligible for any VFC vaccine doses. They would need to receive purchased doses and they would be responsible for the \$3.00 copay when they receive immunizations
- Adults that are 19 years of age and older that are **Uninsured** are eligible for certain NCIP vaccines. Please refer to the most up to date edition of the NCIP Vaccine Coverage Criteria located on the NCIP website at <http://www.immunize.nc.gov/providers/coveragecriteria.htm>
- Purchased vaccines (not required by Agreement Addenda) may be coded to Immunization program so that you can recoup your cost. Vaccine inventory and purchasing policies should describe the process as to what program type to code the services. LHDs must inform the client of any charges before the service. Immunizations, and their administration, in this category may be charged to insurance or the client and are not subject to any SFS.

## 8. Travel Immunizations

At this time, Health Departments are restricted from billing Medicaid for counseling CPT codes 99401-99403, but you may be able to bill self-pay clients and third-party payors. Please check with other third-party payors regarding their policy on

reimbursement for this series of codes. Regardless of which payor type you are billing, your documentation must support the service as well as the time spent.

9. Billing for multi-series vaccines-

Scenario/Question:

If client presents in FP and receives first dose of Twinrix®, when they return for doses 2 & 3 do they go to STI or IMM?? The problem presents with the admin fee.

If they receive in FP then it must slide, if they receive subsequent doses in IMM they do not slide. Is this OK?

- The short answer depends on the funding source (public or private vaccine). For state supplied vaccine (including Twinrix®) the NCIP Coverage Criteria must be followed (see attached pg. 1 & 4)). Only uninsured adults can receive state Twinrix®. Also, the maximum charge for the vaccine administration fee is \$20.45 (current fee cap), which must be waived if the client states an inability to pay regardless of the clinic in which the client is seen, according to the billing brief and LHD Immunization Agreement signed by the Health Director (see below). Most LHD's for which I am familiar, do not charge a vaccine administration fee for state supplied vaccine.
- The Long answer and resources:
  - Only those 18 years and older that are **Uninsured** are eligible for the VFC Doses of Twinrix. So, there is no 3<sup>rd</sup> party payor to bill. If they have Medicaid or Insurance, they would need to receive private stock of Twinrix and follow your normal billing procedures. If these persons are covered by the \*\*\*\*Be Smart Family Planning Program—they are considered Uninsured for our purposes and would be eligible for the VFC Twinrix.
  - VFC Eligibility must take place at each visit so if they were on Medicaid for dose #1 they were not eligible for a VFC dose on that date of service. When they return for dose #2—they have lost their Medicaid and are now Uninsured—on that date of service they are VFC eligible and would get a VFC dose. (see excerpts from the Coverage Criteria below)

VACCINE	AGES COVERED	Cohort	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
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			FOR NCIP VACCINE USAGE
HepA/HepB Combination (Twinrix)	≥18 years	UNINSURED ADULT USE	<p><b><u>LHD/FQHC/RHC Only:</u></b> Any uninsured adult who meets one or more of the ACIP recommended coverage groups can receive a three-dose series of the combination Hep A/Hep B vaccine at the local health department or at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and Rural Health Centers (RHC).</p> <p>State-supplied Hep A/Hep B vaccine <u>cannot</u> be used for the accelerated schedule, four dose series <b>or</b> for persons with a documented history of a completed hepatitis A or B series.</p>

- \*\*\*\* **LHD/FQHC/RHC only:** Persons covered by the Be Smart Family Planning Program are considered uninsured and may receive certain state-supplied vaccines as noted in this coverage criteria for uninsured adults if receiving services at a Local Health Department, Federally Qualified Health Center, or Rural Health Clinic.
- And this is the guidance from 2009 about LHD's being able to charge out of pocket admin. fees (see attached Billing Brief for the full document)
- A change in state law allows local health departments (LHDs) to charge the client an out-of-pocket administration fee for state-supplied vaccine **unless:**
  - the client is uninsured or underinsured, **and**
  - the family income is below 200% of the federal poverty level.
- If these two conditions apply, the client's administration fee must be waived.
- If the LHD chooses to charge an out-of-pocket administration fee for state-supplied vaccine, the **maximum** amount is based on the state Medicaid rate on

the date of service. LHDs should check the LHD rate table provided annually by the DPH. Clients who state an inability to pay should have the administration fee waived.

- If the LHD's do charge out of pocket fee to those that are not excluded by the criteria above—they can charge it for each vaccine at each visit. (see the attached Billing Brief- Elizabeth Draper is now the contact and not Janie Ward-Newton-contact information below).

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Excerpts from LHD Agreement:

6. I will not charge a vaccine administration fee to non-Medicaid federal vaccine eligible children that exceeds the administration fee cap of \$20.45 per vaccine dose. For Medicaid children, I will accept the reimbursement for immunization administration set by the state Medicaid agency or the contracted Medicaid health plans.
7. I will not deny administration of a publicly purchased vaccine to an established client because the child's parent/guardian/individual of record is unable to pay the administration fee.
  - As far as the criteria for who can receive the vaccine in clinical terms—they need to refer to the Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B Chapters in the Pink Book—which ever adults that ACIP states needs Hep A/Hep B vaccines are eligible for the VFC doses if they are uninsured. It is no longer restricted to the criteria in the 2008 memo. We always recommend following ACIP recommendations.
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/hepa.pdf> Hep A Chapter page 144



## Twinrix

- Combination hepatitis A vaccine (pediatric dose) and hepatitis B (adult dose)
- Schedules
  - 0, 1, 6 months, or
  - 0, 7, 21 to 30 days and a booster dose 12 months after first dose
- Approved for persons 18 years of age and older

## Persons at Increased Risk for Hepatitis A or Severe Outcomes of Infection

- International travelers
- Close contact with an international adoptee from a country of high or intermediate endemicity
- Men who have sex with men
- Persons who use illegal drugs
- Persons who have a clotting factor disorder
- Persons with occupational risk
- Persons with chronic liver disease
- Healthcare workers: not routinely recommended
- Child care centers: not routinely recommended
- Sewer workers or plumbers: not routinely recommended
- Food handlers: may be considered based on local epidemiology

### Adults at Risk for HBV Infection

- Sexual exposure
  - sex partners of HBsAg-positive persons
  - sexually active persons not in a long-term, mutually monogamous relationship\*
  - persons seeking evaluation or treatment for a sexually transmitted disease
  - men who have sex with men
- Percutaneous or mucosal exposure to blood
  - current or recent IDU
  - household contacts of HBsAg-positive persons
  - residents and staff of facilities for developmentally disabled persons
  - healthcare and public safety workers with risk for exposure to blood or blood-contaminated body fluids
  - persons with end-stage renal disease
  - persons with diabetes mellitus
- Other groups
  - international travelers to regions with high or intermediate levels (HBsAg prevalence of 2% or higher) of endemic HBV infection
  - persons with HIV infection

\*persons with more than one sex partner during the previous 6 months

For information regarding consent/authorization for immunizing minors, please refer to: <http://www.sog.unc.edu/publications/bulletins/immunizations-children-and-adolescents-frequently-asked-questions-about-north-carolinas-laws>

For additional program guidance, please contact your Regional Immunization Consultant or visit the program website at <http://www.immunize.nc.gov/providers/index.htm>

# Sexually Transmitted Infections

## STI Clinical Coverage Policy- Treatment in Local Health Department

1. The following Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners in a LHD setting are eligible to provide STI services:
  - Physician (billed by E/M code)
  - Nurse Practitioner\* (billed by E/M codes)
  - Physician Assistant\* (billed by E/M codes)
  - Enhanced Role Public Health Nurse (billed by T1002 to Medicaid; 99211 or T1002 to third party insurance).

### **\*Advanced Practice Practitioner**

Every Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner should receive an orientation to the STI Program and agree to provide services according to DPH STI Program guidelines.

2. Currently Rostered STI Enhanced Role Registered Nurses (STI ERRN) who have completed the STI Enhanced Role training course, may provide services to clients seeking STI evaluation and can bill Medicaid for these services if the STI ERRN conducts the interview, performs the physical examination, orders the appropriate testing and provides appropriate treatment and counseling. The STI ERRN uses the T1002 for Medicaid covered clients or may bill third party insurance if allowed by the client's plan using 99211 or T1002 with the client's permission.
3. T1002 is billed in units. One unit = ERRN services for each full 15 minute increment. The T1002 is billable when all the service components are provided, even if the treatment component is completed on a different day while waiting for the results of a lab test or if no treatment is necessary. Service components include the following:
  - Provide essential STI services which are defined as:
    - medical history,
    - sexual risk assessment,
    - a physical examination inclusive of the upper and lower body,
    - laboratory testing,
    - treatment (as needed),
    - counseling and referral necessary for the evaluation of individuals with an exposure to, or symptoms suggestive of, a sexually transmitted infection.

- In the public health setting, essential STI services would include primary prevention such as STI screening in asymptomatic clients based upon the client's site(s) of exposure.
  - A maximum of 4 units per day may be billed per client. The time spent for each visit must be documented in the medical record. Time is defined as total time spent; for instance, 30 minutes time spent = 2 units. The documentation recording the STI service components provided should support the number of units billed. If additional units are needed (beyond 4), refer to STI Clinical Coverage Policy for instructions.
4. If during a Child Health, Family Planning/Be Smart, Maternity or other program visit the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner needs to rule out STIs to meet standards of care, the client cannot be charged for the STI testing and treatment services. The client should be evaluated using the same standard of care and medical record documentation as if they were being evaluated in the STI clinic. Even in these clinics **within the Health Department**, the 340B STI drugs may be given to the client for treatment; however, all follow-up on the STI must be done in the program in which they were evaluated and/or treated (per CD Branch).
  5. At the current time, most STI services cannot be charged to the client but can be charged to Medicaid and other third-party payers with the client's permission. If you bill insurance, you must use 99211 or T1002 for a nurse visit or a higher E/M code for Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners. Remember that if the client presents as being concerned about having a reportable STI or presents in an STI Clinic, nothing related or required for STI evaluation is billable to the client. Exceptions to this rule apply only for tests and procedures not offered by the NC SLPH or not required by the DPH STI Program.

**Exceptions include:**

- You may charge a client for any STI lab the client requests that is not offered through NC SLPH. For example, the SLPH does not offer Chlamydia testing for males. Therefore if the client requests the testing through a private lab, they can be charged.
- Past legal guidance has stated that "screening and diagnostic testing still falls within the guidelines of services provided at no charge to the client " but that "once a STI that is not specified in the rule [15A NCAC 19A.0204(a)], such as venereal warts, has been diagnosed; treatment and follow-up services may be charged to the client." If you have additional questions, please contact your PHNPDU Consultant.

- Asymptomatic clients who request screening for non-reportable STIs (e.g., herpes serology)
  - Clients who receive follow-up treatment of warts after the diagnosis is established.
  - The non- STI ERRN may bill insurance using 99211 for STI treatment only visits. Non-STI ERRNs may not bill **Medicaid** for STI treatment only visits Non-STI Enhanced Role Nurses providing STI services to **Medicaid** clients should use the nonbillable STI visit code LU242 for reporting services provided to the client since they cannot bill for the services provided.
6. By Agreement Addenda it is preferred that STI ERRN provide services to STI clients, but a registered nurse having demonstrated competency can administer treatment per standing order, obtain client history and provide client-centered counseling).
  7. Physicians or Advanced Practice Practitioners should bill Medicaid and may bill third party payers (with the client's permission) using the appropriate E/M codes for the level of service provided. Third party payers (Medicaid and third party insurance) can be charged for STI services. *NOTE that in this case billing third party insurance will result in an EOB to the home address; therefore, the client should be informed of that and have the opportunity to say they do not want insurance to be billed.*
  8. Billing when two different Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners (different NPI numbers) see client same day:
    - When a client receives STI services billed with E/M or T1002 code and is also seen by another health department Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner on the same date of service for a separately identifiable medical condition, the health department may bill both visits. There must be a separate diagnosis code and E/M code for the second procedure. No modifier is required in this circumstance since there are two separate Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners involved (with two NPI numbers).
  9. Billing Preventive and E/M visits to Medicaid on the same day
    - Medicaid will not reimburse for same day preventive visits and an E/ M (office) visit. This applies to all programs (see exception). The only additional CPT codes that can be included in the service are CPT codes for injectable medications or ancillary studies for laboratory or radiology. You will need to consult with each insurance carrier for their plan specific billing rules. *Exception: Please refer to Health Check Program Guide for changes related to CH.*

- If a client is seen by a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner for STI services and an additional problem on the same day, two E/M codes may be billed, however, the -25 modifier must be appended to the second E/M code. This will identify that two “separately identifiable services” were provided by the **same Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner** on the **same day**, and it is not a duplicate billing
- Billing STI services provided by the STI ERRN-The four (4) components of the STI exam do not have to be provided by the same STI ERRN in order to bill Medicaid for the provision of the STI service. *This is a clarification in the Medicaid STI Clinical Service Policy, effective 3/30/2016.* The service can still be split across two different days and can be provided by a different STI ERRN on each day, billing T1002 per unit (equals a full 15 mins.) of care provided.
- STI ERRN- must bill T1002 for Medicaid clients and use 99211 or T1002 to bill insurance clients.
- The non- STI ERRN may bill insurance using 99211 for STI treatment only visits. Non-STI ERRNs may not bill **Medicaid** for STI treatment only visits Non-STI Enhanced Role Nurses providing STI services to **Medicaid** clients should use the nonbillable STI visit code LU242 for reporting services provided to the client since they cannot bill for the services provided.
- TB nurse must bill TB services to Medicaid using T1002 and bill insurance using 99211 or T1002.

#### 11. Additional Billing Scenario:

- When a “Be Smart” client is scheduled for the STI ERRN visit and upon interview thinks the client has “BV again”, can the client be switched to Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner schedule and charged for the clinic visit? We do not recommend switching the client to the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner. You should:
  - See the client in STI clinic but do not bill “Be Smart”.
  - If you switch a “Be Smart” client to a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner schedule, it will count towards the 6-visit limit for the year.
  - *Keep in mind that if you use 340B drugs to treat non-reportable STIs this may significantly reduce your supply of 340B drugs available to treat clients that the health department is mandated to treat.*

#### 12. Human Papilloma Virus (HPV):

- Once HPV is diagnosed (in any clinic), the health department can see the client and treat them in any appropriate clinic, and you can charge at that point for the treatment of HPV.

- If the only reason you are seeing the client for is the treatment of HPV, you can either bill the HPV treatment CPT or an E/M code, but not both.
  - If you are providing additional services that are unrelated to HPV treatment that would warrant an E/M code, then you could bill with the treatment CPT code and the E/M and append the -25 modifier to the E/M code. To bill for both services, the visit and documentation must meet all criteria for both CPT codes.
  - HPV treatment is billable to clients if they do not have Medicaid or prefer that their insurance not be billed. HPV is not a reportable STI and therefore does not fall under the “not billable to clients” stipulation.
  - An STI ERRN can apply TCA (HPV treatment) if the lesion they are treating has been diagnosed as a genital wart by a provider in that health department AND the STI ERRN has been adequately trained, observed, and signed off by a provider in that health department AND a standing order is current, signed, dated, etc. STI ERRN do not receive training on applying TCA in the STI ERRN Course.
12. STI Services Not Billable to Clients: please see memo from then Assistant Attorney General John Barkley, dated August 31, 2001 (Appendix C) regarding this topic.

## STI LABS

If the NC SLPH does not provide a test, insurance can be billed with the client's consent and clients without insurance or who do not want to file with their insurance can choose to pay out of pocket if the LHD has policy to support it.

1. If a client comes in to have a syphilis serology done *for purposes of employment*, **ONLY** we have a ruling that says that client may be charged. **NOTE:** that the LHD can only charge for drawing the blood IF it sends the blood to an outside lab for testing. The State Lab is not an appropriate lab to send tests done solely for employment. Please refer to the STI Contract Addenda, which give additional circumstances for billing clients.
2. Modifiers with Labs  
Valid billing with a modifier:
  - Modifier-59: Distinct Procedural Service, different site or organ system, for example, multiple sources collected for screening culture GC (modifier -59)
  - Modifier-90: Specimen sent to a reference laboratory for processing.
  - Modifier-91: Repeat Clinical Diagnostic Lab test. **Note:** This modifier may not be used when tests are:

- rerun to confirm initial results;
- due to testing problems with specimens or equipment;
- for any other reason when a normal, one-time, reportable result is all that is required.

For example, when a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner requests a test be repeated on the same day. Modifier-91 indicates that it is not a duplicate billing.

Effective Jan. 1, 2015, four new modifiers more effectively identify **distinct services that are typically considered inclusive to another service**. Utilizing these modifiers will help with more accurate coding that better describes the procedural encounter. These modifiers are appropriate for NCCI procedure-to-procedure edits only

- **XE – Separate Encounter:** A service that is distinct because it occurred during a separate encounter.
- **XS – Separate Structure:** A service that is distinct because it was performed on a separate organ/structure.
- **XP – Separate Practitioner:** A service that is distinct because it was performed by a different practitioner.
- **XU – Unusual Non-Overlapping Service:** The use of a service that is distinct because it does not overlap usual components of the main service.

**If you receive denials when using these “X” modifiers, continue to rebill the claims until current issues between DMA and NCTracks and electronic health record vendors can be resolved. We have been advised that that billing via the NCTracks portal works for these modifiers.**

Use of these modifiers vs. modifier 59:

Do not use one of these modifiers with modifier 59 on the same claim line. According to CPT guidelines, modifier 59 should be used only when no other descriptive modifier explains why distinct procedural circumstances exist. Therefore, these new modifiers should be used instead of modifier 59 to describe why a service is distinct.

Medicaid will continue to accept modifier 59 when the X {ESPU} modifiers do not accurately describe the encounter. Documentation must support the use of modifiers.



“OB” Modifier- Beginning July 1, 2016, if you report or bill with a zero \$0 charge office visits that are associated with an OB package code or OB global package code, please use the “OB” non-standard modifier for these OB office visits.

**Miscellaneous Billing Guidance:**

1. At the current time, Medicaid only reimburses for STI services provided in the home setting when it is an extension of the clinical services. Use “71” as place of service.
2. The Q&A from the July 26 & 27, 2017 Coding & Billing Guidance Document Webinar- STI/CD/TB is posted on the DPH/LHD website at <http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/> under the Documentation & Coding header.
3. **Q:** Is the Health Department responsible for any of the charges to a client (i.e. deductible) arising from when a client chooses to have their STD labs sent to a Private Reference Lab vs. the SLPH and use their insurance to pay?

**A:** No. Any charges associated with using their third party insurance is the responsibility of the client. Just remember no-copays may be accepted. We do think it would be a good practice to have the client sign a form stating they are aware that the health department is not obligated to pay for deductibles or other fees associated with billing insurance.

**For additional program guidance, please contact your Regional STI/Communicable Disease Consultant or visit the program website at <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/lhds.html>**

## Tuberculosis Control & Treatment

### Clinical Coverage Policy Tuberculosis Control and Treatment 1D-3

(guidance below as per TB Consultant 9-14-15)

1. The following Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners in a LHD setting are eligible to provide TB service:
  - Physician (billed by E/M codes)
  - Nurse Practitioner\* (billed by E/M codes)
  - Physician Assistants\* (billed by E/M codes) Public Health Nurses\* (billed by T1002 or reported by use of the appropriate LU code)
  - Public health nurses (RNs) supervised by the public health nurse (RN) who is responsible for the TB Control Program and shall complete the Introduction to Tuberculosis Management course.

**\*Advanced Practice Practitioner**

2. TB Disease or Contacts:

- Per GS 130A-144 “the local health department shall provide, at no cost to the client, the examination, and treatment for tuberculosis disease and infection...” As a result, TB services that deal with the examination and treatment of TB must be free or if billed to Medicaid or a third-party payer the LHD must assure that the client is not being billed for anything. This becomes problematic because most insurance companies have in their contract with the health department that they must collect co-pay from the insured client. Medicaid does not require that a co-pay be collected due to this law. If you bill third party insurance, then you would need to negotiate the copay issue with the insurance company.
- The T1002 visit for TB clients is billed in units based on time recorded in client record by a Public Health (PH) Nurse under the guidance of a PH Nurse that has had the Introduction to TB course. The T1002 visits are for the monthly evaluation of clients on TB medication and not for DOT visits. (DOT is not a billable service, but DOT visits should be captured using LU121 or LU122). If your IT system does not accommodate the use of the LU Codes, please consult your vendor for further guidance. Time spent with eligible nurse seeing the client must be documented in the medical record. A good practice is to document time = units. Example: 30 minutes = 2 units. Remember: 1 unit = a full 15 minutes. Procedure code T1002 cannot be billed on the same day that a preventive medicine service is provided.

- A maximum of 4 units per day may be billed per client. The time spent for each visit must be documented in the medical record. Time is defined as total time spent; for instance, 30 minutes' time spent = 2 units. The documentation recording the TB service components provided should support the number of units billed.
- Clients that are contacts to TB or are symptomatic cannot be charged for a TB skin test. Clients who need a TB skin test for reasons of employment or school may be charged if the health department uses purchased supply. (Reading the TB SKIN TEST is included as part of the total charge)
- If the only service that a client comes in for is a skin test due to employment, school, etc., it should go under the TB program type. However, if the client comes in for another service like MH, CH, or FP and it is determined as a part of the history that they are at high risk for TB and need a skin test, then that TB SKIN TEST should go under the program that the client is in. The basic rule is that the TB SKIN TEST was then related to the program that brought the client in and is determined by the purpose of the visit.
- To be able to separate purchased vs. state supplied TB SKIN TEST, use the LU114 code for state supplied TB SKIN TEST (report only) and the CPT code 86580 for purchased TB SKIN TEST, which can have a charge attached. If your vendor is unable to support the use of LU codes, you may need to work out a different mechanism for reporting state supplied TB SKIN TEST.
- If the client has third party insurance and an RN is providing monthly assessments, you can bill third party insurance with the client's permission using 99211 or T1002 provided the components to support the 99211 or T1002 are necessary and documented. Other Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners eligible to bill third party insurance would use the appropriate E/M code for the level of service, provided the components to support the E/M code are necessary and documented.
- When a client receives a billable TB service (billed using an E/M code) and is also seen by the **same health department Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner** on the **same date of service** for a separately identifiable medical condition, the health department may bill the appropriate E/M code, provided the diagnosis on the claim form indicates the separately identifiable medical condition and modifier 25 is appended to the E/M code that correlates to the primary reason for their visit to the health department. If the client is seen by a different health department Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner on the same date of service ..... no 25 modifiers is needed.
- It is permissible to bill for TB services rendered in the home for clients unable to come to clinic due to their disease. These services would be billed using the T1002 code with the appropriate number of units and Place of Service Code-71 Public Health Clinic. You must use the 71 as Medicaid does not have the T1002 code

identified for Place of Service Code 12- Home. (as per Julie Luffman and Phyllis Rocco 2/17)

Billing Preventive and E/M visits to Medicaid on the same day

- Medicaid will not reimburse for same day preventive visits and an E/ M (office) visit. This applies to all programs (see exception). The only additional CPT codes that can be included in the service are CPT codes for injectable medications or ancillary studies for laboratory or radiology. You will need to consult with each insurance carrier for their plan specific billing rules. *Exception: Please refer to the Health Check Program Guide for changes related to CH.*
- If a client is seen by a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner for STI services and an additional problem on the same day, two E/M codes may be billed, however, the -25 modifier must be appended to the second E/M code. This will identify that two “separately identifiable services” were provided by the **same Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner** on the **same day** and it is not a duplicate billing
- Billing STI services provided by the STI ERRN-The four (4) components of the STI exam do not have to be provided by the same STI ERRN to bill Medicaid for the provision of the STI service. *This is a clarification in the Medicaid STI Clinical Service Policy, effective 3/30/2016.* The service can still be split across 2 different days and can be provided by a different STI ERRN on each day, billing T1002 per unit (equals 15 mins.) of care provided.
- **TB nurse must bill TB services to Medicaid using T1002 and bill insurance using 99211 or T1002.**

3. TB Skin Test (TST) and Interferon Gamma Release Assays (IGRA's) for Employment, College or other non-mandated reasons

- Clients who need a TST or IGRA for reasons of employment or school may be charged if the health department uses purchased supply. (Reading the TB skin test is included as part of the total charge.) It is preferable to use symptom and risk screening questionnaires in lieu of placing a skin test for low risk individuals and to place the skin test or obtain an Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) if the person responds yes to any of the questions. IGRA's are preferred in this situation.
- TST's and IGRA's can be provided as a flat fee service if the client does not qualify as “free” per TB program guidelines because the TB program does not have a required sliding fee scale.
- If the only service that a client comes in for is a skin TST or IGRA due to employment, school, etc., it should go under the TB program type. However, if the

client comes in for another service like MH, CH, or FP and it is determined as a part of the history that they are at high risk for TB and need a TST or IGRA, then that TST or IGRA should go under the program that the client is seen in. The basic rule is that the TST or IGRA was then related to the program that brought the client in and is determined by the purpose of the visit.

- TB skin tests can be provided as a flat fee service if the client does not qualify as “free” per TB program guidelines because the TB program does not have a required sliding fee scale.
- If the only service that a client comes in for is a skin test due to employment, school, etc., it should go under the TB program type. However, if the client comes in for another service like MH, CH, or FP and it is determined as a part of the history that they are at high risk for TB and need a skin test, then that TB skin test should go under the program that the client is seen in. The basic rule is that the TB skin test was then related to the program that brought the client in and is determined by the purpose of the visit.
- The following LU codes may be used to report TST given, not read:
  - LU124 was TST given, not read, for low risk
  - LU 123 was TST given, not read, contact

## **Communicable Disease**

1. EPI Program type is used for General Communicable Disease activities including Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, food-borne outbreaks as well as other reportable disease investigations and follow-ups other than STI or TB. Clinical visits can be reported using the appropriate CPT Ccde, and there are LU codes that can be used to report activities that don't fit into a CPT code.
2. EPI services cannot be charged to the client but if a clinical service is provided that is a billable service Medicaid may be charged. Other third-party payers may be charged with permission from the client.

**For additional program guidance, please contact your Regional Communicable Disease Consultant or visit the program website at <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/lhds.html>**

# Women's Health

## Maternity/OB Billing

Maternal Health (prenatal) clients may have health department prenatal services paid for in a variety of ways. Those include Medicaid for Pregnant Women, Presumptive Eligibility, third party insurance, or self-pay (client pays for services). Details on how each of these is handled should be outlined in the health department Fee & Eligibility Policies & Procedures.

### Forms of Payment

#### 1. Full Medicaid

A client may be covered by full Medicaid which includes coverage for many services. However, once they are pregnant the client should speak to the caseworker to inform them that they are pregnant so that they can facilitate a coverage change to MPW. They may return to Full Medicaid after the postpartum period if they are still eligible.

#### 2. Medicaid for Pregnant Women (MPW)

- Clients who do not qualify for full Medicaid coverage (e.g. coverage that extends beyond the pregnancy period) may be eligible for MPW, which covers a broad range of healthcare services
- Covers condition(s) that may complicate a pregnancy and the postpartum period.
- Clients enrolled in any category of Medicaid, including MPW are exempt from co-pays for medical care and prescriptions
- Coverage ends on the last day of the month in which the 60<sup>th</sup> postpartum day occurs

#### 3. Presumptive Eligibility (PE)

Is short term, limited prenatal coverage to ensure access to care while the Medicaid application is being processed.

- Covers the following services:
  - Ambulatory antepartum care (including ED visits)
  - Pharmacy
  - Laboratory
  - Diagnostic testing
- Agencies should complete PE at the time of the positive pregnancy test or at the first prenatal visit even if the client indicates the application for

Medicaid/MPW has been completed. It extends from the date of approval through the end of the following month.

- An example, a client applies and is approved on September 15<sup>th</sup>, then eligibility is through October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Services rendered during the PE period may not be billed to the client.
  - Please see NCAPHNA WHNC Fall 2015 Report excerpt below:

**PE – Email sent 9/28/15 from the Women’s Health Branch to Local Health Directors**

“As shared during the August Core Public Health Meeting, the FY15-16 Maternal Health Agreement Addenda includes the following language: “Completion of PE determination AND referral for Medicaid eligibility determination for all pregnant women, not just those who will remain in the Local Health Department for prenatal care services”.

This language has been included in previous agreement addenda with the exception of OR was replaced by AND.

“The purpose of this language is to help ensure that pregnant women have access to prenatal care services as soon as possible in pregnancy. This is regardless of the payer source. Note that the state’s overall first trimester entry into prenatal care numbers are moving in the negative direction; fewer women are accessing prenatal services early in pregnancy. The goal is to reduce barriers to care for all clients. Please make sure that completion of PE determination and referral for Medicaid eligibility determination is completed as early as possible for accessing prenatal care services. “

**4. Third party Insurance**

- Billed at 100% of the charge
- If the LHD has a contract with the insurance carrier the remaining balance (minus copays) is to be billed to the client based on where they fall on Sliding Fee Scale (SFS)
- If there is no contract with the insurance carrier, then the full amount of services rendered will fall on SFS (copay deduction not required)
- Bill using E/M or Package codes in accordance with the payors billing guidance
- Some health departments file third party insurance for many (if not all) of services. This varies by health department and may depend on participate (being considered “in network”) or do not participate with specific insurance carriers. Third party insurance is always billed at 100% of the charge, and any remaining balance (minus copays) is billed to the client based on where they fall on SFS.

## 5. Self-Pay Clients

- Charges assessed based on financial eligibility
- Clients should be billed using the E/M codes & SFS

## 6. Sliding Fee Scale

- Maternal Health programs include all services funded in whole/part by maternal health dollars (from the Women's Health Branch) such as:
  - Healthy Mothers, Health Children (Title V)
  - State Funds
  - Other special grants to provide a service
- The fee for service must slide to 0%

Details on how each of these is handled should be outlined in the health department Fee & Eligibility Policies & Procedures.

## **Encounter Forms**

- All services provided should be indicated on the Encounter Form whether reportable or billable
- Due to edits/audits related to the National Correct Coding Initiative
  - The practice of billing a 99211, "establishes" the client
  - A subsequent office visit can only be billed using an established client Evaluation/Management (E/M) code

## **Standing Orders**

- Must follow the North Carolina Board of Nursing (NCBON) template, found at the Public Health Nursing website
  - <http://www.ncpublichealthnursing.org/publications.htm>
- Orders must be in place for a nurse to provide and/or order medical services
- The only level of E/M service that may be billed by an RN is 99211
- Billing third party payors, other than Medicaid
  - Ensure compliance is being met with the guidelines consistent with the specific insurer's supervision and "incident to" definitions

## **Enhanced Role Registered Nurses (ERRN)**

- ERRNs must be in compliance with training & rostering



### **Billing for Antepartum Care**

- Office/Outpatient Visit, New - CPT code(s) 99201 -> 99205
- Office/Outpatient Visit, Established (Est.) - CPT code(s) 99211 -> 99215

### **NC DMA Clinical Coverage Policy 1E-5:**

- LHDs that do not bill for delivery services, must bill for antepartum services provided to clients who are seen according to the traditional care schedule using the following guidance and CPT codes:
  - Antepartum care only, 4 - 6 visits - 59425
  - Antepartum care only, 7 + visits - 59426
- Antepartum Package Services codes are based on number of visits
- LHD that provide delivery services are eligible to bill using global codes that include delivery

An uncomplicated pregnancy follows this traditional care schedule as described in **NC DMA Clinical Coverage Policy 1E-5, Section 3.2.1:**

- Every 4 weeks for the first 28 weeks of gestation
- Every 2- 3 weeks until the 36<sup>th</sup> week of gestation
- Weekly from the 36<sup>th</sup> week of gestation until delivery
- The client may be seen more frequently than the traditional care schedule if the provider determines and documents that the client and/or pregnancy warrants additional care
- <http://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/1E5.pdf>

### **NC DMA Clinical Coverage Policy 1E-5, Section 3.2.2:**

- Individual Antepartum Services (use of E/M codes) are covered if:
  - Documentation supports the pregnancy as High-Risk (based on diagnosis) AND requires more than the traditional care schedule of services for gestational age; OR
  - Antepartum care is initiated less than (3) months prior to delivery; OR
  - Client is seen for only (1-3) office visits
- ICD-10 diagnostic codes beginning with “O” are frequently used with high-risk pregnancies that are billed using individual E/M codes
- ICD-10 Diagnostic codes beginning with “O” are frequently used with high-risk pregnancies that are billed using individual E/M codes
- It may still be appropriate to bill an antepartum package (59425, 59426) for a client with a high-risk diagnosis (“O” codes)
- ICD-10 Diagnostic codes in the “Z” and “O” categories may be billed together in some instances and is acceptable

- Codes Z34.0 - Z34.9 (normal pregnancy codes) may be billed with appropriate “O” codes

### **Opportunities for Agency Decision/High-Risk Pregnancies**

- When providing prenatal/antepartum care to clients with a high-risk diagnosis, the agency will need to determine if the client was seen more than the “routine care” for an uncomplicated pregnancy. An agency may use either of the following standards as defined:
  - **ACOG** definition: with early entry into PNC, a traditional number of visits would equal 13
  - **NC DMA Clinical Coverage Policy 1E-5, section 3.2.1**, as defined as:
    - Every 4 weeks for the first 28 weeks of gestation
    - Every 2-3 weeks until the 36<sup>th</sup> week of gestation
    - Weekly from the 36<sup>th</sup> week of gestation until delivery
- The agency can choose to bill the prenatal package code (59425 or 59426) even if the client is seen more than the “traditional” number of visits
- The agency’s decision on how they bill should be reflected in policy

### **Submitting Billing to Medicaid**

- Clients who complete all PNC at the LHD, bill the antepartum package using the delivery date
- Clients who are “Lost-to-follow-up”, use the date of the last kept visit (it is recommended to wait until after client’s due date to file)
- If it is the policy of the LHD to transfer client’s care to another OB provider (at a pre-determined number of weeks gestation), use the last date of service at the LHD for package billing
- If client transfers care to another provider for the remainder of the pregnancy, use the date of transfer
- Laboratory studies
  - If the labs are included in the package billing code, then “yes” they need an OB modifier
  - If the labs are not included in the package billing code and Medicaid pays for them separately, then “no” they do not need an OB modifier
  - If your agency keys PNC as reportable services and uses the OB modifier (so they can be pulled out of the Medicaid Cost Study), the OB modifier goes on all services including labs that are included in the package billing

- Agencies must bill under the facility's NPI, as well as the rendering NPI listed on the PMH contract
- When determining which rendering NPI number to use with a package or global code, Health Departments should use the following:
  - Package code
    - NPI of the last provider that saw the client in the office
  - Global billing
    - NPI of the provider that delivered the client
  - CPT codes are as follows:
  - Venipuncture - 36415 and
  - Serum specimen
    - Pregnancy - 84703
    - Hematocrit - 85013
    - Hemoglobin - 85018
    - Glucose; quantitative - 82947
    - Glucose; blood, reagent strip - 82948
    - Glucose Tolerance; Gestational Screen One Hour - 82950
    - Glucose Tolerance; Gestational Standard Three Hour - 82951
  - Amniotic, Cervical, Fecal, Rectal and Urine specimens
    - Pregnancy/urine - 81025
    - Colposcopy of the cervix - 57452
    - Group Beta Strep culture, aerobic & anaerobic - 87070
    - Group Beta Strep bacterial identification & susceptibility, aerobic - 87077
    - Urinalysis (by dipstick or tablet reagent) non-automated w/ microscopy 81000
    - Urinalysis (by dipstick or tablet reagent) automated w/ microscopy - 81001
    - Urinalysis (by dipstick or tablet reagent) non-automated w/o microscopy - 81002
    - Urinalysis (by dipstick or tablet reagent) automated w/o microscopy -81003
    - Wet mount (analysis of microorganisms) - 87210
    - Culture, Urine, routine - 87086
    - Chlamydia trachomatis - 87491
    - Neisseria gonorrhoeae - 87591
    - Fecal occult blood - 82270

- Assay of fluid acidity - 83986
- Fetal fibronectin immunoassay - 82731
- <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/mp/1E6.pdf>

### **Antenatal Fetal Surveillance**

- **Fetal Surveillance 1E-4**
  - [https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/1E4\\_1.pdf](https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/1E4_1.pdf)
- **Non-Stress Test (NST)**
  - Complete (the health department is billing for the professional/technical component)
    - 59025
  - Technical Component
    - 59025TC
  - Professional Component (the provider supervises and/or interprets the NST them self)
    - 59025-26
- **Ultrasound (U/S)**
  - CPT codes are as follows:
    - Limited, fetal size, heartrate, position - 76815TC
    - Limited, fetal size, heartrate, position (includes interpretation) – 76815
    - 14 weeks, 0 days gestation, single or first gestation, fetal & maternal evaluation - 76805TC
    - 14 weeks, 0 days gestation, single or first gestation, fetal & maternal evaluation (includes interpretation) – 76805
    - 14 weeks, 0 days gestation, additional gestation, fetal & maternal evaluation (includes interpretation) – 76802
    - Amniotic Fluid Index (AFI), limited study – 76815
    - Biophysical Profile (BPP) – 76819
    - BPP with an AFI level – 76816

### **Tuberculosis Screening (TB)**

- There is a greater risk to clients and the fetus if TB disease is not diagnosed and treated
- TB skin testing is considered both valid and safe throughout pregnancy
  - CPT code 86580

### **Lead Screening**

- If the client agrees to testing, staff will facilitate the following steps for collecting a venous blood lead specimen for analysis at the NC State Laboratory of Public Health (NCSLPH).
  - This is a cost-free service for only those clients who seek prenatal care through the health department. The specimen will be drawn at HD and analyzed at the NCSLPH.
  - Health department billing/finance should only file for potential reimbursement on clients covered by Medicaid funding. NCSLPH does not maintain the capability to bill private insurance; therefore, does not request private, third-party insurance data from health departments.
    - CPT code 83655 (check CPT code)
  - Currently, the cost of uninsured client testing is covered by the revenues generated. The NCSLPH will continue to assess cost recovery on an annual basis.

### **Pregnancy Medical Home (PMH) Program**

Are managed care services that provide obstetric care to pregnant Medicaid beneficiaries with the goal of improving the quality of maternity care, improving birth outcomes, and providing continuity of care. The PMH seeks to engage the participation of any provider that is eligible to bill NC Medicaid for obstetric services. Case Management services are provided for all pregnant Medicaid beneficiaries who are determined to be high-risk and qualify for services. To allow the PMH to stay abreast of PMH beneficiary medical needs, DMA's designated vendor shall provide the PMH alerts, including: emergency department (ED) visits, visits to a specialist, missed appointments, and etc. [http://files.nc.gov/ncdma/documents/files/1E6\\_1.pdf](http://files.nc.gov/ncdma/documents/files/1E6_1.pdf)

### **Billing for PMH Incentives:**

- Risk screening:
  - Bill incentive code S0280 – use after pregnancy screening tool has been completed
    - Will only pay once per gestational period
    - Complete the risk screening form at the first PNC visit when OB history and exam are completed and reviewed by the provider
    - Must be completed and signed by an RN or licensed provider including advanced practice practitioners
- Services must be billed to Medicaid in the following manner:

- Rendering provider National Provider Identifier (NPI) number identified on the Community Care of North Carolina (CCNC) contract and
- Health Department's billing NPI number

### **Postpartum**

- Bill incentive code S0281 once the comprehensive postpartum visit has been completed
  - Date of service must be within 60 days of delivery or termination of the pregnancy
  - Cannot be billed for a pregnancy that terminates by a spontaneous or therapeutic abortion
    - Exceptions
      - Relocates to another state with the intent to live there permanently
      - An undocumented citizen and eligible only for emergency services
      - Found eligible only for PE
      - Applies after the termination and documented income
        - Exceeds the MPW Poverty Level and
        - MAF-M
  - Will only pay once per gestational period

### **Maternity/Obstetrical Billing**

- Preventative visit codes should never be billed for the 1<sup>st</sup> prenatal exam
- Medicaid will not reimburse for same day preventive and/or E/M visits
  - Exception
    - Child Health Section, item F
      - <https://dma.ncdhhs.gov/medicaid/get-started/find-programs-and-services/health-check-and-epsdt>
- All PNC visits that will be billed using a package or global code should be coded in the following manner:
  - An E/M CPT code and
  - Reported with an OB modifier
  - Or utilize a separate tracking system for OB package or global services
- All PNC visits should be billed or reported

- When a pregnancy is billed to Medicaid with a prenatal package or global fee code, individual prenatal visits should be:
  - Entered into HIS or billing system and
  - Accompanied by an appropriate E/M code as “0” charge and
  - Accompanied by an OB modifier (as report status only)
  - Or reported in a separate tracking system
- This is important to assure appropriate Medicaid cost settlement

### **Postpartum**

- Postpartum care should be billed using an OB package code or global OB code, not an office visit (E/M) CPT code for Full Medicaid Coverage or MPW
- OB package codes that include postpartum care include the following:
  - **59400 – Global fee;** Routine Obstetrical care including antepartum care, vaginal delivery (with or without episiotomy, &/or forceps) and postpartum care
  - **59510 – Global fee;** Routine Obstetrical care including antepartum, cesarean delivery, and postpartum care (including incision check visit(s))
  - **59410 – Postpartum package;** Vaginal delivery only (with or without episiotomy &/or forceps) and postpartum care
  - **59515 – Postpartum package;** Cesarean delivery only, including postpartum care (including incision check visit(s)) or
  - **59430 – Postpartum care only** (separate procedure, typically used when an agency does not bill for delivery)

### **Postpartum Care Services**

- Visit occurs within 60<sup>th</sup> day following delivery
  - Bill using CPT code 59430 (or an appropriate global code if the agency provides delivery services)
  - PMH incentive code S0281
- Visit occurs after 60<sup>th</sup> day following delivery
  - PMH incentive code S0281 will not be reimbursed if the visit occurs more than 60 days after delivery.
  - The postpartum package CPT code 59430 will be reimbursed by MPW until the coverage expires
  - For clients who transition to “*Be Smart*”, the postpartum clinic visit date is recognized as the Annual Exam Date (AED)

### **Home Visit for Postnatal Assessment**

- CPT code 99501

### **Family Planning Methods Postpartum**

- Bilateral Tubal Ligation (~~at the time of delivery~~)
  - Return within 60 days of delivery for postpartum visit in Maternal Health Clinic
  - LHD uses CPT code 59430 (package code) and
    - Incentive code S0281 (if LHD is a PMH) and
    - Diagnostic ICD-10 code, Z39.2
- Depo-Provera® injection (J1050 FP UD)
  - Administered in Family Planning Clinic, not Maternal Health Clinic
  - Initial injection, Diagnostic ICD-10 code, Z30.013
  - Surveillance injection if provided at the hospital post-delivery, Diagnostic ICD-10 code, Z30.42
  - Postpartum package
    - CPT code 59430 and
    - Incentive code S0281 (if LHD is a PMH) and
    - Diagnostic ICD-10 code, Z39.2
- Intra-Uterine Device (IUD)
  - Return within 60 days of delivery for postpartum visit in Family Planning Clinic
    - LHD uses CPT code 59430 (package code) and
    - Incentive code S0281 (if LHD is a PMH) and
    - Diagnostic ICD-10 code, Z39.2
      - Insertion CPT code 58300 FP and
      - Diagnostic ICD-10 code, Z30.430 and
      - Contraception HCPCS code:
        - ParaGard® J7300 FP UD
        - Skyla® J7301 FP UD
        - Liletta® J7297 FP UD
        - Mirena® J7298 FP UD
        - Kyleena® Q9984 FP UD
- Nexplanon® implant
  - Return within 60 days of delivery for postpartum visit in Family Planning Clinic
    - LHD uses CPT code 59430 (package code) and
    - Incentive code S0281 (if LHD is a PMH) and



- Diagnostic ICD-10 code, Z39.2
  - Insertion CPT code 11981 FP and
  - Diagnostic ICD-10 code, Z30.018 and
  - Contraception HCPCS code:
    - Nexplanon® J7307 FP UD
- Billing guidance
- - 25 Modifier cannot be used with the insertion CPT code 58300 when CPT code 59430 (package code is being used)
- The FP Modifier must be used on the IUD insertion code 58300.
- The FP and UD modifiers must be used when billing the IUD HCPCS code or anytime the contraceptive method was purchased utilizing 340B stock
- 340B stock may only be used in the LHD Family Planning Clinic, not the Maternal Health Clinic
- The provider must include the appropriate diagnostic code for the contraceptive method and counseling

#### **Billing Scenarios for Postpartum Care & PMH:**

- Client who received a bilateral tubal ligation at the time of delivery and/or within the 60 days postpartum. returns to the LHD within 60 days of delivery for the postpartum visit in the Maternal Health clinic. There is no contractual arrangement for the LHD to bill for the delivery. Therefore, the LHD bills **59430** for the postpartum package and **S0281** for the PMH postpartum incentive, along with diagnosis code **Z39.2**. (AF modifier no longer required – do not use or you will not be paid). Service must be billed under the rendering physician name on the Pregnancy Medical Home contract with Community Care of NC (CCNC).

If after 60 days postpartum, HCPCS code **S0281** will not be reimbursed but the client may return for the postpartum visit using CPT code **59430** under MPW until the end of the month that the 60th postpartum day falls.

- Client returns to LHD within 60 days of delivery for the postpartum visit. The client needs to begin a contraceptive method and is seen in the Family Planning Clinic. Client receives a Depo-Provera® injection. LHD bills **59430** for the postpartum package, **S0281** for the PMH postpartum incentive with diagnosis code **Z39.2**. The injection **J1050** FP UD billed with diagnosis **Z30.013** (initial injection) or **Z30.42** (surveillance of injection if provided at the hospital post-delivery).

- Client returns to LHD within 60 days of delivery for the postpartum visit. Client has an IUD inserted at the postpartum visit in the Family Planning Clinic. The LHD can bill **59430, S0281** and **codes for the contraceptive device and insertion**. Billing is as follows:
  - The FP modifier must be used on the contraceptive device and insertion code 58300, if the LHD is using 340 B stock.
  - The Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner must include an appropriate diagnosis code for the contraceptive method and method counseling.
- Client delivers a baby on May 15, 2017. 60th postpartum day is July 14, 2017. MPW coverage extends through July 31, 2017. A postpartum exam that occurs on or before July 31, 2017 will be covered by MPW.
  - Client is seen for the postpartum care on July 10<sup>th</sup>, the PMH participating practice can bill for the 59430 postpartum package AND the S0281 incentive code. If, the client is not seen for the postpartum care until July 20<sup>th</sup>, the 59430-postpartum package would be covered because the MPW extends through to the last day of the month. The S0281 would not be covered because the client was more than 60 days postpartum.
- Incision checks or any other routine postpartum care they provide, since the 59430, billed with S0281 at the time of the comprehensive postpartum visit, represents a “package” of postpartum services and not a single visit. An incision check would be included in the 59430 package.
  - Client comes in for an incision check and then a BP check and then an MMR or Varicella vaccination before the “comprehensive postpartum visit,” all those visits are covered by the 59430. Only the vaccinations/administration codes would be billed separately.

#### **- 24 Modifier Issues Unrelated to Pregnancy**

- If the provider treats a client for a problem unrelated to the pregnancy, these visits are excluded from the maternity package and can be billed separately
- Append Modifier 24 Unrelated E/M service by the same provider during the prenatal period to all E/M services that address unrelated issues as to alert the payor
- The order of diagnostic codes for billing is as follows:
  - First -> Unrelated pregnancy ICD-10 Diagnostic code
  - Second -> Z33.1 Pregnancy state, incidental

- Dependent upon the payor, services billed using this modifier + unrelated diagnostic codes may only be paid after the global, package, and/or delivery has been billed
  - Consult specific payors for guidance
  - An Example: A maternal health client presents to the LHD clinic with an Upper Respiratory Infection. The client is seen by a provider and treated.
    - The visit may be billed outside the prenatal package using an appropriate E/M code with the -24
    - Modifier and the following diagnostic codes:
      - First -> Unrelated pregnancy ICD-10 Diagnostic code (code to describe the URI)
      - Second -> Z33.1 Pregnancy state, incidental

### **Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)**

1. Please refer to the STI section which begins on page 43.

### **HMHC/Title V (Well Child funding)**

2. Title V policy on applying SFS: any client whose income is less than the federal poverty level will not be charged for a service if that service is partly or wholly supported by Title V funds. For clients having income above the federal poverty level, the SFS of the LHD will be used to determine the percent of client participation in the cost of the service.
3. 10A NCAC 43B .0109 Client and Third-Party Fees
  - If a local provider imposes any charges on clients for maternal and child health services, such charges:
    - Will be applied according to a public schedule of charges;
    - Will not be imposed on low-income individuals or their families;
    - Will be adjusted to reflect the income, resources, and family size of the individual receiving the services.
  - If client fees are charged, providers must make reasonable efforts to collect from third-party payors.
  - Client and third-party fees collected by the local provider for the provision of maternal and child health services must be used, upon approval of the program, to expand, maintain, or enhance these services. No person shall be denied services because of an inability to pay.
    - All child health services, whether sick or well, no matter where delivered, must be billed on the SFS that slides to zero.

### **Maternal Care Skilled Nurse Home Visit**

- Follow requirements in NC DMA Clinical Coverage Policy 1M-6
- Rendered by an RN skilled in Maternity Care
  - HCPCS Code T1001

### **Health & Behavior Intervention (HBI)**

- Only provided by Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)
- Per unit/15 minutes
- Maximum of 44 units/pregnancy and postpartum
  - Additional units will be considered for coverage with documentation of medical necessity
- Medicaid funding
  - CPT code 96152, no cost to client
- Third-Party funding
  - Consult specific payors for guidance
  - CPT code 96152
- <https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/documents/files/1m3.pdf>

### **Medical Lactation Services**

- Only provided by Physician, Advanced Practice Practitioner and Physician Assistant
- The following must apply:
  - A medical condition (e.g., feeding problem or low weight gain) diagnosed by the above mentioned provider
  - If the client is seen by the physician and the International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) on the same date of service, the physician must include the services provided by the IBCLC by billing the appropriate E/M code
  - Health and behavior visits using codes 96150, 96151, 96152 may not be reported on the same date of service as an E/M service
  - The visit is not for generalized preventive counseling or risk factor reduction
  - When more than four CPT codes 96150 are submitted by a provider/group the additional services will be denied. If a redetermination is requested, documentation showing the medical necessity of the additional time must be submitted.
- Component of the office visit code

- Per unit/15 minutes, based on the IBCLCs time (they are not for use by physicians or other billable licensed health care provider), when performed
- Health Departments use the following CPT codes:
- 96150 - Health and behavior assessment (e.g., health-focused clinical interview, behavioral observations, psychophysiological monitoring, health-oriented questionnaires), each 15 mins. face-to-face with the client; initial assessment
- 96151 - Health and behavior assessment (e.g., health-focused clinical interview, behavioral observations, psychophysiological monitoring, health-oriented questionnaires), each 15 mins. face-to-face with the client; re-assessment
- 96152 - Health and behavior intervention, each 15 mins., face-to-face; individual
- 96153 - Health and behavior intervention, each 15 mins., face-to-face; group (2 or more clients)
- 96154 - Health and behavior intervention, each 15 mins., face-to-face; family (with the client present)

**Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) (also see p. 110)**

- Only provided by Physician, Advanced Practice Practitioner and Physician Assistant
- The following must apply:
  - A medical condition (e.g., feeding problem or low weight gain) diagnosed by the above mentioned provider
  - If the client is seen by the physician and the IBCLC on the same date of service, the physician must include the services provided by the IBCLC by billing the appropriate E/M code
  - The visit is not for generalized preventive counseling or risk factor reduction
- Health Departments use the following CPT codes:
- Per unit/15 minutes
  - Initial – 97802
    - Service limited to a maximum of 4 units/date of service
    - Service cannot exceed 4 units/270 calendar days
  - Reassessment – 97803
    - Service limited to a maximum of 4 units/date of service

- Service cannot exceed a maximum of 20 units/365 calendar days
- Reassessment & subsequent intervention(s) for change in diagnosis – HCPCS code G0270
- Per unit/30 minutes
  - Group (2 + or more individuals) - CPT code 97804
  - Reassessment and subsequent intervention(s) for change in diagnosis (group) – HCPCS code G0271

### **Group Prenatal Care (e.g., CenteringPregnancy®)**

- Currently does not have specific coding distinguishing that it is “group”
- Proceed with using the traditional care schedule of coding for individual clients’ provider visits
- Bill for childbirth education in addition to PNC if group PNC sessions meet the NC DMA requirements for Childbirth Education

### **Childbirth Education**

- Refer to Birthing Classes-Clinical Coverage Policy 1M-2
  - <https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/1m2.pdf>
- Provider must have childbirth education training as specified in the policy
  - One unit/one hour
  - Maximum of 4 hours per day
  - Can be billed up to 10 hours of instruction per client/pregnancy
    - Use HCPCS code S9442

### **Tobacco Cessation and Counseling**

- Physicians, Advanced Practice Practitioners and Health Departments can bill DMA for services using the following:
  - Intermediate visit (3-10 minutes) - CPT code 99406
  - Intensive visit (over 10 minutes) - CPT code 99407
  - Counseling cannot be billed if provided to a parent/guardian
- Physicians, Advanced Practice Practitioners and Physician Assistants can bill under respective NPI number
- These CPT codes can be billed “incident to” the physician by the following professional specialties:
  - Certified clinical supervisor
  - Clinical addiction specialist
  - Clinical nurse specialist
  - Clinical social worker
  - Licensed psychologist

- Marriage/family counselor
- Professional counselor
- Psychological associate
- Registered Nurse
  - Must have a standing order to provide and bill for these services
  - They must have attended a certified smoking cessation counseling training
  - <http://www.publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/>
- Tobacco cessation counseling may be billed in addition to the package or global fee for PNC except in the *Be Smart* program.

#### Depression Screening

- Screenings should be performed 1x each trimester and postpartum.
- Screenings can also be performed/billed in addition to the above prescribed when indicated and with supportive documentation
- During the prenatal course of pregnancy, a provider may choose from the following:

#### Patient Health Questionnaire

- Screening questions that are presently used in the *State Maternal Health Form DHHS 3963C-1*
  - If positive, then a PHQ-9 or Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) must be completed
  - Screening questions are not required if the agency chooses to use the PHQ-9 or another validated depression screening tool
  - Screening questions cannot be billed
- PHQ-2 (validated tool)
  - If positive, then a PHQ-9 or Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) must be completed
  - PHQ-2 is not required if the agency chooses to use the PHQ-9 or another validated depression screening tool
  - PHQ-2 cannot be billed
- PHQ-9
  - Bill on the date of service using CPT code 96127

#### Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS)

- Can be used during both the antenatal, but preferred during the postpartum period

- Postpartum agency visit can occur in either
  - Maternal Health
  - Family Planning
- The comprehensive postpartum visit reimbursement includes depression screening with a validated tool.
- Depression screening may be billed in addition to the postpartum package, global and incentive codes
- Depression screening is only reimbursable if completed in an agency setting

### **Vaccines**

- If the client is self-pay or services are billed using individual E/M codes, the agency can bill in the following manner:
  - The provider E/M office visit CPT code (99212 - 99215)
  - Vaccine CPT code and
  - A vaccine administration CPT code 90471 or 90472
- Self-pay clients will be billed on a SFS
- Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) and Varicella-Zoster Immune Globulin (VZIG) are only administered postpartum. If the client is seen in Family Planning or Maternal Health Clinics, healthcare providers must assess for immunization compliance and refer to immunization clinic as required.
  - MMR - CPT code 90707
  - VZIG, human - CPT code 90396
- If a client comes to clinic only to receive an immunization, (not during routine PNC), then the agency is to bill in the following manner:
  - A vaccine code and
  - Administration fee
- The only vaccines that are recommended to be routinely administered during pregnancy are:
  - Influenza
    - Preservative free, CPT code 90686
    - With preservative, CPT code 90688
  - Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap)
    - CPT code 90715
- These vaccines may be billed during routine PNC visits as follows:
  - Bill administration CPT code 90471 or 90472 and
  - Bill vaccine CPT code per immunization program rules and
  - Bill or report the office visit E/M CPT as appropriate



- Vaccine administration and the vaccine specific CPT codes should be billed on the date the vaccine is administered

### **Billing for Antepartum Care – Therapeutic Injections**

RhoGam or 17 Alpha-Hydroxyprogesterone caproate (17P) provided during PNC

- If the agency plans to bill PNC using a package or global code for OB services and a provider E/M office visit is conducted the same day as a therapeutic injection administration, then the office visit should be billed as follows:
  - Report the office visit (CPT codes 99212 - 99215) with an OB modifier
  - Bill the therapeutic injection CPT code 96372
  - Bill the specific medication HCPCS code:
    - RhoGam, Full dose - J2790
    - RhoGam, Partial dose - J2788
    - 17P – J1726 (may only be used for Makena® if the medication has been purchased by the agency; billed per 25 units/10mg unit) and
    - 17P - J3490 (may only be used for Compounded at pharmacy if the medication has been purchased by the agency; billed per 1 unit/250mg) and
    - Makena®
      - HCPCS code J1726 and
      - The National Drug Code (NDC)
    - Delalutin®
      - HCPCS code J3490
      - 17-P Used only for the treatment of advanced adenocarcinoma of the uterine corpus (Stage III or IV); in the management of amenorrhea (primary and secondary) and abnormal uterine bleeding due to hormonal imbalance in the absence of organic pathology, such as submucous fibroids or uterine cancer; as a test for endogenous estrogen production and for the production of secretory endometrium and desquamation.
      - [https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/Medicaid\\_Bulletin\\_2016\\_09.pdf](https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/Medicaid_Bulletin_2016_09.pdf) (begin pg 35)

### **Injections provided outside of a prenatal visit**

- Regardless of the payor, a therapeutic injection administration and a Nurse E/M office visit may not be billed on the same day of service

- If a package or global code will be billed for OB services and the therapeutic injection was the only reason for the visit, the following are billing options:
  - #1 - Report the nurse office visit - CPT code 99211 with the OB modifier as part of the total number of visits in the package and bill the HCPCS code for the specific medication
    - Do not bill the therapeutic injection CPT code 96372
    - Documentation must be present to support billing for a Nurse office visit OR
  - #2 - Bill the therapeutic injection - CPT 96372 with the HCPCS code for the specific medication
    - Do not report the office visit CPT code 99211
- Self-pay clients should be billed on SFS

### **Injections for agencies that are not the PNC provider**

- When an RN provides multiple visits for a client not receiving prenatal services at that particular agency, these visits may be billed in one of two manners:
  - Utilize CPT code 99211 (supportive documentation is present) and
    - HCPCS J1726 (Makena®) and
    - The National Drug Code (NDC), they include:
      - 64011024301 and 64011024702 or
    - HCPCS J3490 (Compound 17P)
      - NDCs for all compounds and
      - Invoice from compounding pharmacy
  - Utilize CPT code 96372 and
    - HCPCS J1726 (Makena®) and
    - NDC, the includes:
      - 64011024301 and 64011024702 or
    - HCPCS J3490 (Compound 17P)
      - NDCs for all compounds and
      - Invoice from compounding pharmacy
- Regardless of the number of visits for 17P administration, an agency that is not providing PNC services may not bill a package code 59425

For additional program guidance please contact the Regional Nurse Consultant (RNC) or visit the program website at <http://whb.ncpublichealth.com>. Additional guidance on coding & billing is contained in the following guidance:

- Maternal Health Billing/Coding Webinar, May 12, 2017  
<http://whb.ncpublichealth.com/provPart/training.htm>

- NC Public Health Nursing – Coding & Billing Guidance Document, Updates from 03/2018, version 8.  
<http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/docs/CodingBillingGuidanceDocumentUpdateMarch2018-v8.pdf>

# Family Planning

## Clinical Coverage Policy- Family Planning/Be Smart 1E-7

<https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/1E-7.pdf>

### 1. General Tips regarding Family Planning Billing

- **Specific Criteria Covered by Medicaid FP, NCHC and “Be Smart”:**  
Medicaid FP, NCHC and “Be Smart” shall cover family planning services, nurse midwife, or nurse practitioner, or furnished by or under the physician's supervision. Family planning services include laboratory tests, and FDA-approved methods, supplies, and devices to prevent conception, as follows:
  - The “fitting” of diaphragms;
  - Birth control pills;
  - Intrauterine Devices (IUD’s) (including Mirena, Paragard, Liletta® and Skyla);
  - Contraceptive injections (including Depo-Provera®);
  - Implantable contraceptive devices;
  - Contraceptive patch (including Ortho Evra);
  - Contraceptive ring (including Nuva Ring);
  - Emergency Contraception (including Plan B and Ella);
  - Screening, early detection and education for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), including Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS);
  - Treatment for STIs; and
  - Lab services (refer to **Attachment A, Section C, Item 1 of the Clinical Coverage Policy**)
- Sliding fees apply to all FP services according to Family Planning Program guidelines.
- **Please see the following verbiage from the 4/6/2018 Women’s Health Branch Memorandum entitled “Title X - Collections and Debt Set-Off”:**  
We have received numerous questions pertaining to collections and debt set-off for clients receiving Family Planning services under Title X. Our team reached out to the Office of Population Affairs to gain further clarification. Below is the guidance that we have received.  
Q. Agencies have asked us if it's okay to send clients ' information to collection agencies and/or debt set-off, and how to handle confidential clients.

A. Yes, it is generally permissible for an agency to refer clients to collection agencies and/or debt set-off

However, "confidential " clients/clients should only be referred to Debt Collections and/or Debt Set-off, if the Grantee, and/or it's subrecipients (including service sites) can ensure that the client's "confidential" status will NOT be compromised by going through [he Debt Collection or Debt Set-off process. If "confidentiality" cannot be guaranteed, a "confidential " client should NOT be referred to Debt Collections and/or Debt Set-off.

Q: May a county provide free pregnancy tests and still bill Medicaid?

A: A county may decide to offer pregnancy test at no cost to a certain subpopulation of clients and still bill Medicaid. The process to carry out this is through a manual discounting of the service to zero on the sliding fee scale. I've offered an example of acceptable wording for a policy. There are 2 options:

**Policy:**

In order to identify teens in need of family planning services and subsequently enroll them in care and/or to identify teens early in pregnancy to enroll in prenatal care the fee associated with pregnancy testing will be discounted to zero for those xx years of age and under. Local funding will be used to cover the cost of the service or

discount the pregnancy test to zero for to all women without insurance or Medicaid.

**Procedure:**

Manually override the sliding fee scale and discount the service to zero for all clients xx and under, regardless of their insurance or Medicaid status. (do not bill third party ins. Or Medicaid)

The rule here is the county cannot charge one 18-year-old "0" and turn around and bill Medicaid for the next 18 yr. old that shows up. It will have to be consistently applied to all ages X and under, whatever they determine that age to be.

or

They could also just decide to discount the pregnancy test to zero for to all women without insurance or Medicaid.

- Family planning diagnosis (DX) codes Z30.0 –Z30.9 (except Z30.8) must be the 1<sup>st</sup> Dx for all Medicaid clients when family planning services are provided (except postpartum exams); you may use Z01.41 Gynecological exam for third party insurance.
- If the client has Medicaid and is receiving postpartum clinical follow-up in the FP clinic, instead of an E/M or preventive code; use the routine postpartum follow-up CPT code 59430 (postpartum exam) and S0281 (postpartum incentive code) if the is a Pregnancy Medical Home without any modifiers and pair with the Z39.2 diagnosis. The Family Planning diagnosis is coded second using the appropriate ICD-10 (Z30.0 – Z30.9, except Z30.8) diagnosis code along with the appropriate CPT code for the method provided, using both the FP and UD modifiers
- Providers may bill (both regular Medicaid and “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid) for both insertion/removal of an intrauterine device or contraceptive implant and an E/M office visit if there is a separate, identifiable issue that would warrant an office visit. The office visit is billed with a 25 modifier, and the ICD-10 diagnosis must support the reason for billing the additional office visit with an additional diagnosis other than contraceptive insertion. Beneficiaries covered under “Be Smart” are only eligible for family planning services as described in DMA’s 1E-7 Clinical Coverage policy and are not eligible for any other Medicaid program.
- Annual exam & IUD: If during an annual exam, the beneficiary requests an IUD insertion (CPT procedure code 58300) or an IUD removal (CPT procedure code 58301), or during the annual visit the beneficiary decides to switch from birth control pills to an IUD, the provider may bill for the annual exam and the IUD insertion or IUD removal. An appropriate modifier must be submitted with the annual exam procedure code, indicating that the service rendered was a separately identifiable service provided by the same provider on the same day of service. The provider’s documentation should support that the service rendered was a separately identifiable service provided by the same provider on the same day of service.
- Inter-Periodic Visit & IUD: If the only reason that the beneficiary is seen in the office is to request an IUD insertion (CPT procedure code 58300) or an IUD removal (CPT procedure code 58301), providers should not bill a separate inter-periodic office visit. An office visit component is included in the reimbursement for CPT procedure codes 58300 and 58301. However, if during the same visit, services are rendered for a separately identifiable service provided by the same provider on the same day of service, the provider may bill for the inter-periodic visit and the IUD insertion or IUD removal. The provider’s documentation should support that the service rendered was a separately identifiable service.

The list of procedure codes that meet the comprehensive annual or physical exam requirement under the “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid program now contains procedure codes that include the postpartum exam – 59400, 59410, 59430, 59510, and 59515 – in addition to the comprehensive annual or physical exam codes: 99383, 99384, 99385, 99386, 99387, 99393, 99394, 99395, 99396, and 99397.

Please refer to the February 2016 Medicaid Bulletin, page 16 for additional information.

<https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs->

[public/documents/files/Medicaid Bulletin 2016 02.pdf](https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/Medicaid_Bulletin_2016_02.pdf)

Effective October 1, 2015, (per WH RNCs) DMA will now allow the CPT code 59430 (postpartum package code) to meet the annual exam date (AED) requirement for the “Be Smart” program. Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners can list the date from the postpartum visit as the AED on “Be Smart” claims. DMA will include this change in a pending Medicaid Bulletin article (not published as of 2/1/16)

- The annual preventive exam should be age appropriate and services provided as medically necessary. Only one preventive exam is billable per 365 days.
- If the client is being seen for a Preventive visit during her menses and a Pap smear is required, the complete exam with the exception of the pelvic exam should be performed. It is preferred that you do everything possible at the Preventive visit. You should charge for the Preventive visit and lab work done on that day. If the client returns for a Pap smear and/or labs, you can then charge for the labs and a handling fee (99000) that are done to complete the visit. No visit code or pelvic exam should be billed since this is considered the completion of the Preventive visit you have already billed. If the Pap smear is not completed with the preventive visit, it must be completed within 30 days of the preventive visit to be covered.
- When a client presents for a service which is usually performed by a nurse such as a “pill pick up” or a “Depo only” visit but is instead performed by a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner or a physician because the nurse is unavailable, that visit should still be coded as a CPT code 99211 since that is the usual level of service. Coding the visit to a higher level without provision of higher level services penalizes the client based only on having been seen by a higher-level Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner. When a client presents for that same type visit and sees a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner, and it is noted in the history that the client is having severe headaches or other problems requiring the judgment of the Physician or

Advanced Practice Practitioner, then the visit should be billed at the appropriate higher level

- Contraceptive Injection/Depo-Provera
  - For nurse-only visits at which clients receive Depo injections, agencies may opt to bill in one of the following two ways for regular Medicaid, Be Smart Family Planning Medicaid, self-pay and commercial insurance:
    - Bill a 99211 FP and a J1050 FP UD
      - i. Note: the FP modifier is not needed with 99211 for self-pay clients.
    - Bill a 96372 FP and a J1050 FP UD
  - For clients with Be Smart Family Planning Medicaid:
    - Billing with 96372 does not count toward the client's annual limit of six inter-periodic office visits, while 99211 does count toward this limit.
  - In deciding how your agency will bill, please be aware of the different reimbursement rates for 99211 and 96372.  
It is permissible to bill 96372 (injection fee) for contraceptive injections (Depo) with an E&M visit code (99212-99215) or with a preventive visit code when 1) a provider or an RN is onsite, and 2) the RN clearly documents that he/she administered the injection. A -25 modifier is required and should be appended to the office visit code.
- Nurses providing follow-up care to Family Planning clients for birth control methods (including Depo) should always bill or report these services under the prescribing Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner. For example, Sue comes for her annual FP exam and the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner writes a new prescription for Depo for the next 12 months. Each time Sue returns during those 12 months, the Depo should be billed under the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner who prescribed it and not the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner/nurse who gives it. This should remain constant until a new prescription is written (whether it is for Depo or a different method.)

If the originating physician or APP has left the practice, a new prescription would need to be written and billing would then be under the new prescribing physician or APP's NPI number.

- Effective January 1, 2007, National Drug Codes (NDCs) must be used when billing/reporting HCPCS codes (drugs/medications i.e. Depo, Implantable Device, etc.) to Medicaid. When billing Medicaid do not use NDC numbers when billing/reporting immunizations/vaccines. However, Tricare, United



Health Care and potentially others, requires NDC numbers to be included when billing for vaccines. NDC numbers are specific to drugs/medications and do not apply to immunizations/vaccines. These are two different things. **Note:** National Drug Codes are a universal drug identification number. They identify the manufacturer of the drug and are assigned by the FDA.

- It is recommended that the nurse/Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner administering the drug be responsible for documentation of the NDC number required for billing purposes.
- LHDs should follow the guidance below in billing Medicaid for methods/devices

### **NC Medicaid ICD-10 update**

The Division of Public Health has confirmed that all the following ICD-10 codes are active/paying in NCTracks:

- Z30.015 Encounter for initial prescription of vaginal ring hormonal contraceptive
- Z30.016 Encounter for initial prescription of transdermal patch hormonal contraceptive device
- Z30.017 Encounter for initial prescription of implantable subdermal contraceptive
- Z30.44 Encounter for surveillance of vaginal ring hormonal contraceptive device
- Z30.45 Encounter for surveillance of transdermal patch hormonal contraceptive device
- Z30.46 Encounter for surveillance of implantable subdermal contraceptive

### Additional Guidance

- Previous guidance was to see a Family Planning client requesting STD services in STD/Adult Health instead of in Family Planning, especially if the client was using the Depo injection for contraception. However, since updated Be Smart Family Planning Medicaid guidance states that agencies may opt to bill 96372 instead of 99211 for Depo injections without depleting one of the six inter-periodic visits, there is no longer significant concern about depleting inter-periodic visits by seeing these clients in Family Planning for STI testing/treatment.
- Agencies shall incorporate the CD/STD program's STD screening questions at the annual/preventive visit via the Family Planning Health

History Form (DHHS 4060F and DHHS 4060M). At a problem/inter-periodic visit, agencies only need to ask the CD/STD program's screening questions as indicated. For example, if a client presents with a vaginal discharge at a problem/inter-periodic visit, the provider may ask screening questions as indicated, and does not necessarily need to ask all STD screening questions on the DHHS 4060F/4060M forms.

- No STD services covered under 10A NCAC 41A.0204(a) provided to a FP client should be billed to that client. Medicaid and third-party payers (with client's permission) may be billed, but not the client.

1. 10A NCAC 41A .0204 CONTROL MEASURES - SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES:

Local health departments shall provide diagnosis, testing, treatment, follow-up, and preventive services for syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, nongonococcal urethritis, mucopurulent cervicitis, chancroid, lymphogranuloma venereum, and granuloma inguinale. These services shall be provided upon request and at no charge to the client.

a) One exception is diagnosis of and treatment for genital warts, which may be billed either to regular Medicaid, third party insurance, or to the client via the Sliding Fee Scale.

- LHDs that operate and dispense through an outpatient pharmacy (either a contract pharmacy or a LHD operated pharmacy that fills contraceptive prescriptions written by any community Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner, not just LHD Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners) can either bill using the Medicaid Outclient Pharmacy Rules or can use the Physician Drug Program (PDP) process. If the Pharmacy is a Medicaid Pharmacy provider (outpatient pharmacy), then standard dispensing fees (as established by Medicaid) can be billed to Medicaid along with the cost of the method/device.
- LHDs that bill for IUDs, Implantable Devices, and Depo through the Family Planning Clinic/PDP process must bill Medicaid the actual (or acquisition) cost which they paid for the method/device, and no dispensing fee is allowed.
- LHDs that dispense and bill for other Family Planning contraceptives through the Family Planning Clinic/PDP process (LHDs that fill contraceptive prescriptions only for clients seen in the LHD Family Planning Clinic) must bill Medicaid the actual (or acquisition) cost which they paid for the method/device, and no dispensing fee is allowed.

- 340B stock Emergency Contraception may only be prescribed/dispensed/administered via the Family Planning clinic. Therefore, if pregnancy testing is done in NON-Family Planning clinics (i.e. in General Clinic), and if it is appropriate to offer Emergency Contraception with a negative pregnancy test, then a Family Planning encounter must be opened before prescribing/ dispensing/administering the Emergency Contraception from 340B stock.
- The FY 17-18 Family Planning Agreement Addendum, Attachment B, lists J3490 (“unclassified drugs”) as a HCPCS code that may be used for Emergency Contraception (EC), based on the Family Planning National Training Center’s recommendation. Because J3490 is used in other programs for other drugs, we suggest that agencies consider using HCPCS code S5001 (“prescription drug, brand name”) for Ella and Plan B. If your agency uses generic EC drugs, HCPCS code S5000 (“prescription drug, generic”) may be used. If your Electronic Health Record (EHR) system permits multiple modifiers to be added to the HCPCS code to distinguish between Ella and Plan B, then your agency can use modifiers to distinguish the fees for each of these drugs. If your EHR does not permit the addition of multiple modifiers to the HCPCS code to distinguish between Ella and Plan B, then you may set one fee for HCPCS code S5001, based on a weighted average cost for Ella and Plan B. When calculating a combined fee for Ella and Plan B, please use the same methodology that you use when calculating your agency’s fee for all types of Oral Contraceptive Pills under HCPCS code S4993. Because the NC Division of Medical Assistance (DMA/Medicaid) will not reimburse Local Health Departments for EC, we recommend that clients with Medicaid be provided a prescription for EC and sent to the pharmacy whenever possible. However, assigning a HCPCS to EC will allow you to count the number of doses of EC dispensed and provide a mechanism for charging insured clients and self-pay clients (on the Sliding Fee Scale) for EC. Alternatively, if your EHR permits the use of LU codes, you may wish to track EC use and set fees for EC using LU codes.
- Since 340b prices change regularly, we suggest that you determine your average cost for a year for each 340b method or device. This amount can then be used for billing using the UD-modifier and FP-modifier. As this methodology is updated annually, this should provide the least amount of risk as it will be the closest to your actual cost. Your purchase cost for each device should be reviewed and updated at least annually.

- There should not be 3 different fees/charges for billing 340b medications or devices. You should follow the guidance below:
  - LHDs are required to bill Medicaid the acquisition cost of medication or devices purchased via the 340b drug program. Therefore, their fee/rate for Medicaid must be the purchase cost.
  - LHDs may charge insurances and self-pay clients at a different fee/rate than what they charge Medicaid for the same medications or devices purchased via the 340b drug program.
  - LHDs may choose to charge all payors the acquisition cost of medication or devices purchased via the 340b drug program.
  - However, LHDs (due to Title X funding) are required to slide the fee/rate of the medication or device on the SFS for all self-pay Family Planning clients.

Billing scenario for client with insurance and Medicaid with device purchased with 340b funds:

Jane has both BCBS and Medicaid. Her family planning appointment includes an IUD that costs \$300 at 340B/acquisition cost. That same IUD costs \$600 at the usual and customary cost. The agency bills BCBS \$600, and BCBS reimburses the agency \$200. The agency then bills Medicaid \$100 in the hopes of being reimbursed for \$300 total – the 340B acquisition cost.

So, our (WHB) advice is that it's okay to bill Medicaid the remainder of the 340B/acquisition cost if third party insurance reimburses an amount that's less than the 340B/acquisition cost.

If, however, the device was **purchased privately (NOT via 340B pricing)**, you would bill Medicaid the \$400.00 difference between the billed price (**\$600**) and what BCBS paid (**\$200**).

### **IUD CPT Code Changes**

The following HCPCS codes may be used to bill for IUDs and implants as of 1/1/2018:

- J7297 - Liletta®, 52 mg levonorgestrel-releasing IUD
- J7298 - Mirena®, 52 mg levonorgestrel-releasing IUD
- J7296 - Kyleena®, 19.5 mg levonorgestrel-releasing
- J7301 - Skyla®, 13.5mg levonorgestrel-releasing IUD
- J7300 - ParaGard®, the copper IUD
- J7306 - Nexplanon®, etonogestrel implant system

- For Medicaid and NCHC Billing
  - The NDC units for Kyleena® should be reported as “UN1”.
  - NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice cover the Kyleena® IUD as of October 2016. Please see page 17 of the January 2017 DMA Bulletin for more detailed information on this coverage:  
[https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/medicaid\\_bulletin\\_2017\\_01.pdf](https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/medicaid_bulletin_2017_01.pdf)
  - While Kyleena® is covered by regular NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice, the Division of Medical Assistance has informed us that **Kyleena® is not covered by Be Smart Family Planning Medicaid** (formerly known as the Family Planning Waiver). Because there are other similar, less expensive devices available, Kyleena® has not been included on the current Be Smart formulary.
  - For additional information on NDC, refer to the January 2012, Special Bulletin, National Drug Code Implementation Update.
  - For additional information regarding NDC claim requirements related to the PDP, refer to the PDP Clinical Coverage Policy No. 1B, Attachment A, H.7 on DMA’s website.
  - Providers shall bill their usual and customary charge for non-340-B drugs. Medicaid Bulletin January 2017
  - PDP reimburses for drugs billed for Medicaid and NCHC beneficiaries by 340-B participating providers who have registered with the Office of Pharmacy Affairs (OPA). Providers billing for 340-B drugs shall bill the cost that is reflective of their acquisition cost. Providers shall indicate that a drug was purchased under a 340-B purchasing agreement by appending the “UD” modifier on the drug detail.
  - The fee schedule for the PDP is available on DMA’s PDP web page.
  - Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner(s) shall follow applicable modifier guidelines. Family planning services billed to Medicaid must be billed with the appropriate code using the FP modifier (not just method related services). If you bill insurance, it is recommended that you contact each carrier to find out what the procedure is for using program related modifiers. For guidance on billing Health Choice for Family Planning services please see below.
  
- \*NOTE: Modifiers with 58300: Use modifier -52 (Failed Procedure) to denote that you attempted insertion, but the procedure was incomplete due to anatomical factors (e.g. Stenosis) or -53 (Discontinued Procedure) to indicate that you had to stop because of concerns for client well-being (e.g. vaso-vagal, severe pain). [According to the 2016 LARC Quick Coding Guide Supplement at

<http://beyondthepill.ucsf.edu/sites/beyondthepill.ucsf.edu/files/LARC%20Quick%20Coding%20Guide%20Supplement.pdf>

- Agencies are encouraged to provide prescriptions for clients with Medicaid or insurance prescription coverage for oral contraceptives, Ortho Evra patch, NuvaRing and Plan B or other emergency contraception to be taken and filled at a private pharmacy of the client's choice. The pharmacy will use their own stock and bill DMA directly. **See decision-making flow charts at the end of this document for additional guidance (Appendixes A and B).**
- For sliding fee scale clients use HCPCS code S4993 with the modifiers FP and UD to bill for oral contraceptives and include the number of packs. Refer to the joint memo from Dr. Holliday and Dr. Joy Reed, 6-18-08, which gives recommendations for determining a fee based on the agencies average cost for oral contraceptives.
- If a billable visit is not provided, there are LU Codes that can be used to capture related services provided, LU235 Pill Replacement (REPORT ONLY) and/or LU236 Pill Pick-up (REPORT ONLY)
- The UD modifier indicates that the contraceptive was purchased through the 340B Drug Pricing Program.
  - The fee for Medicaid-insured clients must be set at the acquisition cost.
  - The fee for uninsured, self-pay clients may be set EITHER at the acquisition cost or at the usual and customary fee.
  - The fee for commercially-insured clients may be set at EITHER the acquisition cost or at the usual and customary fee.
  - Agencies may opt to either charge all commercially-insured clients the 340B/acquisition fee, or to charge all commercially-insured clients the usual and customary fee. Any charges that are not fully reimbursed by the commercial insurance carrier must be charged to the client on the SFS.
- If the agency opts to charge all commercially-insured clients the usual and customary fee, and if the agency is not contracted with clients' insurance carrier, then the agency should inform clients prior to rendering services that they may be charged less at a facility that is in-network with their commercial insurance carrier. If clients make an informed decision to be seen at the agency's family planning clinic, the agency should bill clients on the SFS for any amount not reimbursed by their commercial insurance carrier.

Example 1: The agency decides to set the two fees for Family Planning devices/medications as above, and to charge commercially-insured clients the usual and customary fees. Client Beth has BCBS and comes to the agency's family planning clinic requesting an IUD. Beth is informed that her visit may cost less with an in-network provider, since the agency is not contracted with BCBS. Beth makes an informed decision to be seen at the agency. The provider

inserts a Liletta® IUD. The agency purchased the Liletta® IUD at the \$50 340B/acquisition fee. The agency bills BCBS their usual and customary Liletta® IUD fee of \$600. BCBS reimburses the agency \$300. The agency then bills Beth the remaining \$300 on the SFS. Since Beth falls at 20% on the SFS, her charge for the Liletta® device is \$60.

- Pro = Agency receives higher reimbursement from commercial insurance
- Con = Client is charged higher fee

Example 2: The agency decides to only set one fee for Family Planning devices/medications – the 340B/acquisition fee. Client Beth has BCBS and comes to the agency's family planning clinic requesting an IUD. The provider inserts a Liletta® IUD. The agency bills BCBS the \$50 340B/acquisition fee for Liletta®. BCBS reimburses the agency \$25. The agency then bills Beth the remaining \$25 on the SFS. Since Beth falls at 20% on the SFS, her charge for the Liletta® device is \$5.

- Pro = Client is charged lower fee
- Con = Agency receives lower reimbursement from commercial insurance

Example 3: **Question:** When a Be Smart client has a Mirena® inserted and the next week has another inserted due to the initial Mirena® fell out, they billed for the 2nd insert & 2nd Mirena®. The insertion was paid for & the Mirena® itself was denied. Reason: 00069 – Denied due to not in accordance with medical policy guidelines. The code used to re-bill was z30.433. Just checking to see if we should be paid for the 2nd Mirena®.

**Answer:** The 2nd device would not be covered in this situation, because the “30-day rule” applies. 30 or more days must pass between insertion of a first IUD and insertion of a second IUD. The IUD may be removed and replaced at the same visit if at least 30 days have passed since the first IUD was inserted. For clients for whom the IUD “falls out,” the clinic should provide a bridge method of the client's choice, then replace the IUD at least 30 days after the first IUD was inserted. Similarly, if clients wish to switch IUD brands within the first 30 days of IUD insertion, the provider should give the client the option to either 1) remove the IUD today and use a bridge method until the next IUD can be inserted, or 2) leave the IUD in place until at least 30 days after insertion, and then have an IUD removal and new IUD insertion at the same visit.

- How to bill when Child Health and Family Planning services interface

If the reason for visit is for a well child exam but the client presents also wanting FP services, the visit is billed as follows:

- Bill the Well Child Exam along with all required components under the CH program type. The CH portion of the visit would be documented using the CH templates whether in EHR or paper format.
- REPORT all the FP portions of the visit, assuring that all required FP components have been completed. The FP portion of the visit would be documented using the FP templates whether in EHR or paper format.
- In order to offer 340B medications, the visit must be documented separately so that it is clear a FP visit has been made therefore establishing the client in FP.
- Document using a separate encounter form.
- If the reason for visit is for FP services but the client is also in need of their CH visit, the visit is billed as follows:
- REPORT the Well Child Exam along with all required components under the CH program type. The CH portion of the visit would be documented using the CH templates whether in EHR or paper format.
- Bill all the FP portions of the visit, assuring that all required FP components have been completed. The FP portion of the visit would be documented using the FP templates whether in EHR or paper format.
- NCTracks has indicated that they will no longer require the TJ modifier for NC Health Choice Family Planning clients. **The claims should only require an FP modifier and should pay at the usual rate** instead of \$90. We have not been able to verify that this fix is working properly.
- General Reminders
  - 340B drug eligibility requires that the client be a registered FP client.
  - If a client is seen for FP services, all the assessments and education are completed and separately documented (separate from the CH documentation) and an encounter reflects that the client received FP services, then the client should be able to receive 340B drugs, even if the encounter is entered as “report only.”
  - Assure all CH service components are provided.
  - DO NOT try to document both visits on the same program template. Neither the CH or FP templates are structured to comply with both program requirements.

**Additional guidance can also be found in the following Physician’s Drug Program Clinical Coverage Policy under the reimbursement section:**  
**<http://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dma/mp/1B.pdf>**

- If a Health Check exam is provided in FP and a method is provided, LHDs will need to add the FP modifier in the first modifier field (to match the FP CPT and



diagnosis codes) AND the EP modifier in the second modifier field (to match the Health Check CPT and diagnosis codes). Please contact your CH or PHNPDU Nursing Consultants with questions related to this combined service.

If you bill other third-party payers, it is recommended that you contact them individually for guidance on use of the FP modifier.

- Clarification from Title X has greatly expanded the services that should be included under the FP Program. The revised guidance clearly indicates that services to promote the reproductive and general health of the clients are an expected part of FP services. Example One: Client has a Pap test done in Family Planning; the follow-up, re-test, etc. must be done in the FP program. Example Two: FP Annual Exam is done, and client needs a thyroid screen that has nothing to do with FP or method the client is receiving; in this case, the client should be referred for the thyroid screen to another clinic or health department, and the client would be responsible for the cost of that screen. When a FP client calls in to make an appointment for a problem (discharge, headaches, breakthrough bleeding, etc.) the client should be seen initially in the FP Clinic for a determination of whether this is related to or has an impact on the method of contraception being used. If the problem requires follow-up with another Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner or a specialist, the referral can be made after that evaluation. If you have questions, please contact your Women's Health Nursing Consultant.

#### Billing Preventive and E/M visits to Medicaid on the same day

- Medicaid will not reimburse for same day preventive visits and an E/ M (office) visit. This applies to all programs (see exception). The only additional CPT codes that can be included in the service are CPT codes for injectable medications or ancillary studies for laboratory or radiology. You will need to consult with each insurance carrier for their plan specific billing rules. *Exception: Please refer to the Health Check Program Guide for changes related to CH.*
- If a client is seen by a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner for STI services and an additional problem on the same day, two E/M codes may be billed, however, the -25 modifier must be appended to the second E/M code. This will identify that two "separately identifiable services" were provided by the **same Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner** on the **same day** and it is not a duplicate billing
- HMHC/Title V (Well Child funding):  
Title V policy on applying sliding fee scale: any client whose income is less than the federal poverty level will not be charged for a service if that service is partly or wholly supported by Title V funds. For clients having income above the federal poverty level, the sliding fee scale of the LHD will be used to determine the percent of client participation in the cost of the service.

#### 10A NCAC 43B .0109 Client and Third-Party Fees

- If a local provider imposes any charges on clients for maternal and child health services, such charges:
  - Will be applied according to a public schedule of charges;
  - Will not be imposed on low-income individuals or their families;
  - Will be adjusted to reflect the income, resources, and family size of the individual receiving the services.
- If client fees are charged, providers must make reasonable efforts to collect from third-party payors.
- Client and third-party fees collected by the local provider for the provision of maternal and child health services must be used, upon approval of the program, to expand, maintain, or enhance these services. No person shall be denied services because of an inability to pay.
  - All maternal and child health services, whether sick or well, no matter where delivered, must be billed on the SFS that slides to zero.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-124; Eff. April 1, 1985; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. October 3, 2017.*

- Smoking and Tobacco Use Cessation and Counseling
  - The Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner can bill CPT code 99406 if at least 3-10 minutes of counseling has been provided to the client.
  - The Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner can bill CPT code 99407 if greater than 10 minutes of more intensive counseling has been provided to the client.
  - Note: Counseling cannot be billed if provided to the parent/guardian instead of the client.
- Pap Test Fee
  - If the client is self-pay, the reference lab bills the health department (based on negotiated rate) and the health department bills the client using the appropriate CPT code and 90 modifier based on SFS. The reference lab could file a claim-with the insurance company.
  - **Do Not** charge clients with Medicaid for Pap test processing. The lab that performs & interprets the test is responsible for billing Medicaid directly.

- Health Departments should negotiate rates with their reference lab.

## Be Smart Family Planning Medicaid

Physician Advanced Practice Practitioners can bill Be Smart Family Planning Medicaid for a limited set of CPT codes. The complete list of these codes may be found in Attachment A, C1 of the Clinical Coverage Policy.

<https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/1E-7.pdf>

### Be Smart and Retroactive Coverage

Be Smart Medicaid coverage is retroactive for 90 days. If a client has a Family Planning preventive visit within the 90 days preceding her receipt of Be Smart Medicaid coverage, the service should be reimbursed by Be Smart, provided that the client notifies her Department of Social Services (DSS) case worker of the date of the visit and the need for retroactive coverage. Once a local health department confirms that the client has Be Smart Medicaid, the health department may bill for a Family Planning preventive visit that occurred within the 90 days before the BeSmart coverage was issued. That visit date would then be listed as the Annual Exam Date (AED) in NC Tracks. If more than 90 days have passed between the Family Planning preventive visit date and the patient's receipt of Be Smart Medicaid, then the local health department would not be able to bill retroactively for the visit.

#### 1. Annual Examination

An annual examination must be completed on all "Be Smart" program beneficiaries. **The annual examination must be performed for all beneficiaries prior to the rendering of any other family planning services.** However, for established clients, if emergent or urgent contraceptive services are needed, beneficiaries are allowed limited office visits prior to their annual examination. **BeSmart allows for one (1) annual exam/preventive visit per 365 days.**

Postpartum visit now = AED for "Be Smart": Clients who have their postpartum visit while insured under Medicaid for Pregnant Women (MPW) sometimes enroll in "Be Smart" Medicaid when their MPW expires. In the past, these clients needed an annual exam appointment after their postpartum visit to meet "Be Smart" billing requirements. "Be Smart" claims require that the annual exam date (AED) be documented to be reimbursed for contraceptive and other services provided under this coverage.

#### 2. Six medically necessary inter-periodic visits are allowed per 365 calendar days under the "Be Smart" option.

The purpose of the medically necessary inter-periodic visits is to evaluate the beneficiary's contraceptive program, renew or change the contraceptive prescription and to provide additional opportunities for

counseling as follow-up to the annual exam. **The AED is required on all claims for inter-periodic visits with the exception of pregnancy tests. For a list of components that should be included during the inter-periodic visit with pelvic exam refer to Clinical Coverage Policy- Attachment B, section B**

<https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/1E-7.pdf>

The primary purpose of the 6 inter-periodic visits is to provide contraceptive services which are why it is not recommended the health department use the 6 inter-periodic visits for STI services on a routine basis. It is recommended that the health department prioritizes method-related concerns for the six inter-periodic visits.

The contraceptive method may necessitate an evaluation in FP clinic, so health department policy may specify methods like IUD or vaginal rings are automatically brought back into the FP clinic for any complaints of discharge and clients on pills, patches and Depo may be sent to the STI clinic for complaints of discharge. If the six inter-periodic visits have been exhausted, and the client returns to the FP clinic for a method related concern (not caused by an STI), then the health department can bill the client on the SFS for those services.

Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners may bill an E/M visit code when administering Depo-Provera®. However, the use of this visit code is subject to the 6-visit per year limit for BeSmart. Do not charge both an administration fee and an office visit for Depo-Provera®. There are two ways to bill for Depo-Provera®:

### 3. Contraceptive Services, Supplies and Devices

- **Emergency Contraceptives**

Emergency contraceptives are a covered service. The appropriate office visit code may be billed separately.

- **Pharmaceutical Supplies**

All eligible drugs for “Be Smart” Family Planning will have a family planning indicator (modifier) on the drug file (including birth control pills, Depo-Provera®, Ortho Evra, Nuva Ring). Even though most local health departments provide prescriptions to clients with insurance and Medicaid for pills, patch, ring and emergency contraceptives to take their pharmacy of choice, there are rare circumstances (e.g., issues of confidentiality) where LHDs may provide these drugs in house and bill Medicaid using the appropriate UD and FP modifiers. The dispensing fee is based on regular Medicaid rules. **There is a 6 (six) prescription limit per month with no override capability.** Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners are not allowed to distribute “brand

medically necessary” (DAW1) drugs, if a generic is available. All claims must be submitted via Point of Sale (POS) and must have the approved ICD-10-CM code.

**Note:** The AED is not required on “Be Smart” Family Planning program prescriptions.

- **Birth Control Pills**

Birth control pills may be dispensed through a pharmacy. A beneficiary may receive up to a 3-month supply. When provided in by a clinic, the clinic Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner may bill **S4993**.

- **Diaphragms**

“Be Smart” Family Planning beneficiaries can choose a diaphragm as a birth control method. A Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner can fit the client and bill using the appropriate CPT code for diaphragm fitting. However, the program does not cover the actual diaphragm

- **Injectable Drugs**

Depo-Provera® contraceptive injection is a covered service. Use the diagnosis code for contraceptive management. The appropriate office visit code may be billed separately.

- **Intrauterine Devices (IUDs) and Implantable Devices**

The “Be Smart” Family Planning program covers only the removal of Norplant. The global period for 11976 is one (1) pre-care day and ninety (90) post-operative days.

Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners **should not** bill a separate inter-periodic office visit code for CPT codes 57170 (Diaphragm), 58300 (Insertion IUD), 58301 (Removal of IUD) except in the circumstances below; an office visit component is included in the reimbursement. CPT codes 57170, 58300, 58301 are included in the six inter-periodic visit limitations.

\*NOTE: Modifiers with 58300: Use modifier -52 (Failed Procedure) to denote that you attempted insertion, but the procedure was incomplete due to anatomical factors (e.g. Stenosis) or -53 (Discontinued Procedure) to indicate that you had to stop because of concerns for client well-being (e.g. vaso-vagal, severe pain). [According to the 2016 LARC Quick Coding Guide Supplement at

<http://beyondthepill.ucsf.edu/sites/beyondthepill.ucsf.edu/files/LARC%20Quick%20Coding%20Guide%20Supplement.pdf>

Providers may bill (both regular Medicaid and “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid) for both insertion/removal of an intrauterine device or contraceptive implant and an E/M office visit if there is a separate, identifiable issue that would warrant an office visit. The office visit is billed with a 25 modifier, and the ICD-10 diagnosis must support the reason for billing the additional office visit with an additional diagnosis other than contraceptive insertion. Beneficiaries covered under “Be Smart” are only eligible for family planning services as described in DMA’s 1E-7 Clinical Coverage policy and are not eligible for any other Medicaid program.

When diaphragm fitting, intrauterine device insertion, or removal of an intrauterine device occurs during an annual examination, Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners must only bill the appropriate annual examination procedure code.

#### 4. Laboratory Procedures

The following laboratory procedures are **only allowable for the “Be Smart” program when performed “in conjunction with” or pursuant to an annual examination**. For the purpose of “Be Smart,” “in conjunction with” has been defined as the day of the procedure or 30 days after the procedure. Pregnancy tests and sexually transmitted infection/HIV screening can be performed during an annual examination visit **and** any of the six (6) inter-periodic visits allowed under the program.

Urinalysis, Blood count, and Pap test may only be performed once during an annual or inter-periodic visit.

- Pap Test

Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners are allowed one Pap test procedure per 365 calendar days in conjunction with an annual examination.

**The Annual Exam Date is required on all claims for Pap tests.**

If you are unable to obtain a Pap specimen at the time of the preventive visit (i.e. client is on menses), and they return within the allowable 30-day timeframe, you may bill for the Pap (with the appropriate code) and the handling fee (99000).

If they return for the Pap after 30 days has passed, you may bill the handling fee 99000 only (BeSmart will not cover the Pap test after 30 days)

- Collection of Pap Test

Pap test CPT codes should not be used to bill collection of a specimen. Collection of the Pap test is included in the reimbursement for office visits, and no separate fee is allowed. Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners who

do not perform the lab test should not bill the Pap tests. Only the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner who performs the lab test should bill the Pap test codes.

- Repeat Pap Test for Insufficient Cells

**One repeat Pap test is allowed due to insufficient cells.** Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners shall perform the repeat Pap test within 180 calendar days of the first Pap test. **Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners shall include the ICD-10-CM diagnosis R87.615 as the secondary diagnosis on the appropriate claim.**

5. HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections Screenings

Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners can screen a total of any combination of six (6) HIV or sexually transmitted infections per beneficiary per 365 days. Screening for HIV and sexually transmitted infections can be performed during the annual examination or during any of the six (6) inter-periodic visits allowed under the program, when an annual exam has been in paid history.

- HIV Screening

The “Be Smart” Family Planning program allows screening for HIV during the annual examination or the six inter-periodic visits allowed under the “Be Smart” program. **This is a recommended screening and should be completed as necessary and appropriate.** Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners must include the **ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Z11.4** as the secondary diagnosis on the appropriate claim.

**Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners must include the Annual Exam Date on all claims submitted for “Be Smart” Family Planning services. The AED is the date of the annual examination.**

- STI Screening

A total of no more than six (6) STI screenings per 365 days are also covered under the “Be Smart” Family Planning program performed in conjunction with an annual examination or after an annual exam has been in paid history.

**Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners must include the AED on all claims submitted for “Be Smart” Family Planning services. The AED is the date of the annual examination**

6. Previous guidance was to see a Family Planning client requesting STD services in STD/Adult Health instead of in Family Planning, especially if the client was using the Depo injection for contraception. However, since updated Be Smart Family Planning Medicaid guidance states that agencies may opt to bill 96372 instead of 99211 for Depo injections without depleting one of the six inter-periodic visits, there

is no longer significant concern about depleting inter-periodic visits by seeing these clients in Family Planning for STI testing/treatment.

7. Agencies shall incorporate the CD/STD program's STD screening questions at the annual/preventive visit via the Family Planning Health History Form (DHHS 4060F and DHHS 4060M). At a problem/inter-periodic visit, agencies only need to ask the CD/STD program's screening questions as indicated. For example, if a client presents with a vaginal discharge at a problem/inter-periodic visit, the provider may ask screening questions as indicated, and does not necessarily need to ask all STD screening questions on the DHHS 4060F/4060M forms.
8. No STI services covered under 10A NCAC 41A.0204(a) provided to a FP client should be billed to that client. Medicaid and third-party payers (with client's permission) may be billed, but not the client.

10A NCAC 41A .0204 CONTROL MEASURES - SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES: (a) Local health departments shall provide diagnosis, testing, treatment, follow-up, and preventive services for syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, nongonococcal urethritis, mucopurulent cervicitis, chancroid, lymphogranuloma venereum, and granuloma inguinale. These services shall be provided upon request and at no charge to the client.

a) One exception is diagnosis of and treatment for genital warts, which may be billed either to regular Medicaid, third party insurance, or to the client via the Sliding Fee Scale.

#### 9. Consultation for Sterilization

The "Be Smart" Family Planning program will cover consultation for a sterilization procedure. When a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner refers a beneficiary to **another Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner** for a sterilization procedure, then the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner performing the sterilization procedure must select one of the following codes when providing consultation to the beneficiary. **Beneficiaries are allowed two consultations for sterilization per lifetime.**

#### 10. Miscellaneous Billing Instructions

- Inter-periodic & Non-biodegradable drug delivery Implant (i.e. Implantable Devices): Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner shall not bill a separate inter-periodic office visit code when billing for CPT codes 11981 (Insertion), 11982 (removal), 11983 (insertion & removal); an office visit component is included in the reimbursement for "Be Smart" beneficiaries. You may also be reimbursed for the device using the appropriate HCPCS code.
- Interperiodic & Diaphragm fitting: Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner shall not bill a separate inter-periodic office visit code when



billing for CPT code 57170 (Diaphragm fitting); an office visit component is included in the reimbursement for “Be Smart” beneficiaries.

Providers may bill (both regular Medicaid and “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid) for both insertion/removal of an intrauterine device or contraceptive implant and an E/M office visit if there is a separate, identifiable issue that would warrant an office visit. The office visit is billed with a 25 modifier, and the ICD-10 diagnosis must support the reason for billing the additional office visit with an additional diagnosis other than contraceptive insertion. Beneficiaries covered under “Be Smart” are only eligible for family planning services as described in DMA’s 1E-7 Clinical Coverage policy and are not eligible for any other Medicaid program.

- Annual exam & Non-biodegradable drug delivery Implant (i.e. Implantable Devices): Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners can be reimbursed for insertion, removal, and removal with reinsertion of implantable device in addition to the annual exam. You may also be reimbursed for the device using the appropriate HCPCS code.
- Annual exam & Diaphragm: Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners must only bill the appropriate annual examination procedure code.
- Annual exam & IUD: Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners must only bill the appropriate annual examination procedure code. You may also be reimbursed for the device using the appropriate HCPCS code.
- If a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner discovers that a beneficiary is pregnant, a referral to the local Department of Social Services (DSS) for enrollment in the Medicaid for Pregnant Women (MPW) program should be made for **“Be Smart” program beneficiaries**.
- To ease the transition to the “Be Smart” program, prevent duplication of services and minimize the burden for Medicaid beneficiaries, the N.C. Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) is now allowing beneficiaries transitioning to the “Be Smart” program from other Medicaid programs to use the comprehensive annual, physical or postpartum exams received under these programs to meet the “Be Smart” annual exam requirement. To meet the comprehensive annual or physical exam requirement, the beneficiary is allowed one of the three options below:
  - \*Receive the MPW postpartum exam in the 365 days prior to enrollment as the required comprehensive annual or physical exam; or,
  - Receive the regular Medicaid comprehensive annual or physical exam in the 365 days prior to enrollment; **or,**
  - Receive the comprehensive annual or physical exam under the “Be Smart” program prior to receiving other “Be Smart” services.

The list of procedure codes that meet the comprehensive annual or physical exam requirement under the “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid program now contains procedure codes that include the postpartum exam – 59400, 59410, 59430, 59510, and 59515 – in addition to the comprehensive annual or physical exam codes: 99383, 99384, 99385, 99386, 99387, 99393, 99394, 99395, 99396, and 99397.

Please refer to the February 2016 Medicaid Bulletin, page 16 for additional information.

[https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/Medicaid\\_Bulletin\\_2016\\_02.pdf](https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/Medicaid_Bulletin_2016_02.pdf)

- An ICD-10-CM diagnosis related to family planning services must be the primary diagnosis on the claim form.

The Division of Public Health has confirmed that all of the following ICD-10 codes are active/paying in NCTracks:

- Z30.015 Encounter for initial prescription of vaginal ring hormonal contraceptive
- Z30.016 Encounter for initial prescription of transdermal patch hormonal contraceptive device
- Z30.017 Encounter for initial prescription of implantable subdermal contraceptive
- Z30.44 Encounter for surveillance of vaginal ring hormonal contraceptive device
- Z30.45 Encounter for surveillance of transdermal patch hormonal contraceptive device
- Z30.46 Encounter for surveillance of implantable subdermal contraceptive
- Z01.411 – encounter for gynecological examination (general) (routing) with abnormal findings
- Z01.419 – encounter for gynecological examination (general) (routing) without abnormal findings

#### 11. Local Health Departments (excerpt from Clinical Coverage Policy)

- All services must be billed with the appropriate CPT or HCPCS code, ICD-10-CM diagnosis, and FP modifier. N.C. Medicaid **requires** the UD modifier to be billed on the CMS-1500/837P and the UB04/837I claims forms, with applicable HCPCS code and National Drug Code (NDCs) to properly identify 340B drugs. All non-340B drugs are billed using the associated HCPCS and NDC pair without the UD modifier.

- The AED must be entered as the “initial treatment date” on the CMS-1500. The AED is required on all claims.
- Indicate “Yes” on the HIS Service Screen data field for “Be Smart” Family Planning Program Services.
- All approved antibiotic treatment and pain medications must have the appropriate ICD-10-CM diagnosis written on the prescription.
- No “brand medically necessary” (DAW1) medications are allowed, if a generic is available.
- All Local Health Departments must adhere to all applicable North Carolina Medicaid policies and procedures for the “Be Smart” Family Planning program.

#### 12. North Carolina Health Choice & Family Planning Programs

- If a Health Choice exam is provided in FP and a method is provided, LHDs will need to add the FP modifier in the first modifier field (to match the FP CPT and diagnosis codes) Please contact your CH or PHNPDU Nursing Consultants with questions related to this combined service.
- If a Health Check exam is provided in FP and a method is provided, LHDs will need to add the FP modifier in the first modifier field (to match the FP CPT and diagnosis codes) AND the EP modifier in the second modifier field (to match the Health Check CPT and diagnosis codes). Please contact your CH or PHNPDU Nursing Consultants with questions related to this combined service.

**If you bill other third-party payers, it is recommended that you contact them individually for guidance on use of the FP modifier.**

- [MAFDN = Be Smart Family Planning Medicaid] Effective April 1, 2018, when performing a wet mount screening, providers serving Family Planning Medicaid (MAFDN) beneficiaries shall bill procedure code 87210 (smear, primary source with interpretation; wet mount for infectious agents [e.g., saline, India ink, KOH preps]). If both saline and potassium hydroxide (KOH) methods are needed, two units may be billed. Wet mount screenings may be performed during the annual exam or during any of the six inter-periodic visits allowed per 365 days under Family Planning Medicaid, when a sexually transmitted screening is required. Line items submitted with a service date on or after April 1, 2018, for MAFDN eligible beneficiaries, with Procedure code Q0111 (wet mounts, including preparations of vaginal, cervical or skin specimens) will be denied.

The above guidance is from p. 4 of the February 2018 Medicaid Bulletin: [https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/documents/Providers/Bulletins/Medicaid\\_Bulletin\\_2018\\_01.pdf?uigTXM\\_bpAJA7pZqK6P8oSYeQUS0qD8M](https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/documents/Providers/Bulletins/Medicaid_Bulletin_2018_01.pdf?uigTXM_bpAJA7pZqK6P8oSYeQUS0qD8M)

## Be Smart and Sterilization

Providers have been seeking clarification from N.C. Medicaid about sterilization and eligibility under the “Be Smart” program. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) notified N.C. Medicaid that it is **not** acceptable to ask questions related to a beneficiary’s sterilization status during the Medicaid application process. Therefore, some beneficiaries will be approved for Family Planning Medicaid who have no need for family planning services.

Though Department of Social Services (DSS) staff cannot ask beneficiaries questions about sterilization status during the application process, providers **must** do so before rendering services. It is imperative that providers determine if Medicaid beneficiaries need family planning services prior to providing any other services under the program (e.g., annual or physical exams). Providers shall **not** bill Medicaid for **any service** rendered under Family Planning Medicaid for a beneficiary who does not have family planning needs. Claims may be subject to audit to ensure proper billing.

**For additional program guidance, please contact your Women’s Health RNC or visit the program website at *Family Planning Clinical Coverage Policy 1E-7***  
**Be Smart Q&A from June 20, 2018 (see appendix D)**

## Pharmacy (related to Family Planning)

### 1. 340b Drugs

**Although the following section is specific to FP and birth control methods, the same methodology should be followed for all 340b drugs.**

- LHDs should follow the guidance below in billing Medicaid for methods/devices.
- LHDs that operate and dispense through an outpatient pharmacy (either a contract pharmacy or a LHD operated pharmacy that fills contraceptive prescriptions written by any community Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner, not just LHD Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners) can either bill using the Medicaid Outpatient Pharmacy Rules or can use the Physician Drug Program (PDP) process. If the Pharmacy is a Medicaid Pharmacy Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner (outpatient pharmacy),

- then standard dispensing fees (as established by Medicaid) can be billed to Medicaid along with the cost of the method/device.
- LHDs that bill for IUDs, Implantable Devices, and Depo through the Family Planning Clinic/PDP process must bill Medicaid the actual (or acquisition) cost which they paid for the method/device, and no dispensing fee is allowed.
  - LHDs that dispense and bill for other Family Planning contraceptives through the Family Planning Clinic/PDP process (LHDs that fill contraceptive prescriptions only for clients seen in the health department Family Planning Clinic) must bill Medicaid the actual (or acquisition) cost which they paid for the method/device and no dispensing fee is allowed.
  - **N.C. Medicaid requires the UD modifier to be billed with the applicable HCPCS code and NDC to properly identify 340B drugs. All non-340-B drugs are billed using the associated HCPC and NDC pair without the UD modifier.**
  - 340B stock Emergency Contraception may only be prescribed/dispensed/administered via the Family Planning clinic. Therefore, if pregnancy testing is done in NON-Family Planning clinics (i.e. in General Clinic), and if it is appropriate to offer Emergency Contraception with a negative pregnancy test, then a Family Planning encounter must be opened before prescribing/dispensing/administering the Emergency Contraception from 340B stock.
  - Since 340b prices change regularly, we suggest that you determine your average cost for a year for each 340b method or device. This amount can then be used for billing using the UD-modifier and FP-modifier. As this methodology is updated annually, this should provide the least amount of risk as it will be the closest to your actual cost. Your purchase cost for each device should be reviewed and updated at least annually.
2. Administering medication from an outside source is a practice **we do not support** based on being able to assure medication integrity. If the health department chooses to engage in this practice, they should have policy and procedures in place and record the lot number and prescription information from the bottle/syringe.

The above guidance is from p. 8 of the January 2018 Medicaid Bulletin - [https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/Medicaid\\_Bulletin\\_2018\\_01.pdf](https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/Medicaid_Bulletin_2018_01.pdf)

For additional program guidance, please contact your Women's Health RNC or visit the program website at [\*Family Planning Clinical Coverage Policy 1E-7\*](#)

## Questions & Answers:

Clarification from WHB regarding billing 340b for clients with commercial insurance:

Q: If an agency has a client with commercial insurance, and the agency is not contracted with that commercial insurance but bills for a device, and the reimbursement is less than the fee, what happens to the rest of the charge?

A: The agency may set two fees for Family Planning devices/medications:

1. The 340B/acquisition fee, which is also the fee billed to Medicaid. This is the lower of the two allowable fees.
2. The usual and customary fee. This is the higher of the two allowable fees.

FAQs related to above FP Billing Guidance 5/18/17:

1. Does this guidance only apply to local health departments, or does it also apply to private providers and other clinics?
  - The guidance applies to **all Medicaid billers**, not just to local health departments.
2. Does this guidance also apply to contraceptive implants?
  - Yes, the guidance sent on 5/18/17 pertains to how to bill for both IUD **and implant** procedures associated with annual exams and inter-periodic visits.
  - Please read the highlighted sentences below to see how the first part of the guidance (**annual exams**) applies to implants:
    - o If during an annual exam, the beneficiary requests an IUD insertion (CPT procedure code 58300) or an IUD removal (CPT procedure code 58301), or during the annual visit the beneficiary decides to switch from birth control pills to an IUD, the provider may bill for the annual exam and the IUD insertion or IUD removal. An appropriate modifier must be submitted with the annual exam procedure code, indicating that the service rendered was a separately identifiable service provided by the same provider on the same day of service. The provider's documentation should support that the service rendered was a separately identifiable service provided by the same provider on the same day of service. **The above has always been the billing guidance for contraceptive implants at the annual exam. What is new is that the above guidance now also applies to IUDs.**
  - Please see below to see how the second part of the guidance (**inter-periodic visits**) applies to implants:
    - o If the only reason that the beneficiary is seen in the office is to request an IUD/implant insertion (CPT procedure code 58300 or 11981) or an IUD/implant removal (CPT procedure code 58301 or 11982 or 11983), providers should not bill a separate

inter-periodic office visit. An office visit component is included in the reimbursement for CPT procedure codes 58300 and 58301, as well as procedure codes 11981, 11982 and 11983). However, if during the same visit, services are rendered for a separately identifiable service provided by the same provider on the same day of service, the provider may bill for the inter-periodic visit and the IUD/implant insertion or IUD/implant removal. The provider's documentation should support that the service rendered was a separately identifiable service.

3. Does this guidance mean that Medicaid no longer pays for IUD and implant devices?
  - No, Medicaid will continue to pay for IUD and implant devices at both preventive and inter-periodic visits.
4. When will the Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) change their Clinical Coverage Policy 1E-7 (Family Planning Services) to reflect this new guidance?
  - Our understanding is that DMA sees this guidance as further clarification of their current policy rather than information that would necessitate a policy change.
5. Can agencies back bill based on this guidance?
  - No, agencies may not back bill. The guidance takes effect on 5/18/2017.
6. When our agency has tried to bill as per the guidance related to inter-periodic visits, the claim has either been denied, or the claim has gone through only to be recouped within a few weeks.
  - Please contact your Regional Women's Health Nurse Consultant with examples. They can assist you with sending them TCNs via password-protected documents, so that the Division of Public Health and the Division of Medical Assistance can further evaluate the issue.
    - Can a Positive pregnancy test be billed in the maternal health clinic?
    - If the pregnancy test was performed in the FP clinic, but the result is positive, then the visit may be converted to a Maternal Health visit for billing purposes, provided agency policy/procedure/protocol supports this practice. Although FPW/Be smart will not pay for pregnancy testing services provided in the MH clinic, all payor sources must be billed in the MH clinic when the pregnancy test result is positive, if this is the agency's practice. In other words, an agency may not bill some positive pregnancy tests under the FP program and others under the MH program based on the client's payor source. For self-pay clients, positive pregnancy test visits billed in the MH clinic must slide based on where the client falls on SFS
    - Family Planning & STI services:

Q- if a client comes in for STI treatment (to STI) and then is seen for depo shot and client is FPW how should that be billed since you have use the 99211.

A#1 – The agency renders and documents the STI treatment within the STI program. There is no charge to the client and Be Smart cannot be billed for STI program encounters. The agency renders and documents the contraceptive injection (Depo) services within the Family Planning program. The agency bills Be Smart for these Family Planning program services, including a 99211, if applicable.

A#2 – The agency renders and documents both the STI treatment and the contraceptive injection (Depo) services within the Family Planning program. The agency bills Be Smart for these Family Planning services, including a 99211, if applicable.

- Question: If a client comes in for a FP service and receives immunizations, do you put a FP modifier on immunizations if the client has Health Choice?

Answer:

a. No, you would not put the FP modifier on the immunization codes. See DMA Clinical Coverage Policy 1E-7, page 16.

b. Recommended billing guidance for NCHC visits in FP:

- i. Bill the preventive or E&M visit code with the FP modifier. If immunizations are provided during the visit use the 25 modifier as the second modifier on the office visit.
- ii. On the immunization administration code, 90471 or 90472, use the TJ modifier but do not use a modifier on the actual immunization.
- iii. If a contraceptive is provided use the FP and UD modifiers.
- iv. Labs are being paid with and without the FP modifier.



## Laboratory

- An on-site or in-house laboratory is one where the LHD is the owner/responsible party for the CLIA certificate. The LHD may employ testers or contract them from some other entity.
- A reference lab is one where someone other than the LHD is the owner/responsible party for the CLIA certificate.
- A collection-only site does not require a CLIA certificate.
- Tests are categorized into *waived* and *non-waived*. Non-waived includes Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner performed microscopy procedure (PPMP), moderate & high complexity designations.
- QW is used for waived tests, and you only must use it if you have more than one way of doing a test. If the only way to perform it is WAIVED, then do not put the QW.

### 1. Billing Scenarios:

- Scenario A:
  - Lab specimen is collected
  - Lab performs test **in house**
  - LHD may bill Medicaid or insurance for the test. If there is a balance remaining after insurance, the LHD bills client based on SFS. (w/ exception of STI labs)
  - If no Medicaid or insurance- the LHD may bill the client based on their charge for the test and SFS. The LHD may not bill for collection (i.e. 36415) since this should be included in the LHD fee for the lab test
- Scenario B:
  - Lab specimen is collected
  - Lab staff sends specimen to outside lab (including state lab)
  - Outside lab bills Medicaid or third party insurance;
  - For all self-pay outside lab bills the LHD based on negotiated/contracted rate. The LHD may then bill the client at their fee based on SFS (including 36415 for venipuncture and 99000 for handling).
  - SLPH- The State Lab does not bill the LHD for any lab tests they perform. SLPH does bill Medicaid directly if applicable. The LHD may bill the client for the lab test and specimen collection, based on their charge on the SFS (w/ exception of STI labs).

- If the client is considered to be Indigent (0%pay): The LHD may have an indigent client clause with the outside lab. This means that the outside lab agrees to perform the test and does not bill the LHD or the client. Not all contracts include this clause. We recommend the following:
  - Ensure that in their contract, they include a statement that if the insurance does not pay (i.e. unmet deductible) that the lab bill the agency and not the client.
  - Or
  - Just have any client with insurance identified as “self pay” (agency billed by lab) and the agency would bill them on SFS.

- **Scenario C:**

- If a client has both inside and outside labs requiring a venipuncture (36415), the agency may bill for the venipuncture.

## 2. Modifiers with Labs

- Valid billing with a modifier:
  - Modifier-59: Distinct Procedural Service, different site or organ system, for example, multiple sources collected for screening culture GC (modifier -59)
  - Modifier 90: Specimen sent to a reference laboratory for processing.
  - Modifier-91: Repeat Clinical Diagnostic Lab test. Note: This modifier may not be used when tests are rerun to confirm initial results; due to testing problems with specimens or equipment; or for any other reason when a normal, on-time, reportable result is all that is required. -e.g. Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner requests test be repeated on the same day. Modifier required do indicate that it is not a duplicate billing (modifier -91)

Effective Jan. 1, 2015, four new modifiers more effectively identify **distinct services that are typically considered inclusive to another service**. Utilizing these modifiers will help with more accurate coding that better describes the procedural encounter. These modifiers are appropriate for NCCI procedure-to-procedure edits only

- **XE – Separate Encounter:** A service that is distinct because it occurred during a separate encounter.
- **XS – Separate Structure:** A service that is distinct because it was performed on a separate organ/structure.
- **XP – Separate Practitioner:** A service that is distinct because it was performed by a different practitioner.
- **XU – Unusual Non-Overlapping Service:** The use of a service that is distinct because it does not overlap usual components of the main service.

If you receive denials when using these “X” modifiers, continue to rebill the claims until current issues between DMA and NCTracks and electronic health record vendors can be resolved. We have been advised that that billing via the NCTracks portal works for these modifiers.

Use of these modifiers vs. modifier 59:

Do not use one of these modifiers with modifier 59 on the same claim line. According to CPT guidelines, modifier 59 should be used only when no other descriptive modifier explains why distinct procedural circumstances exist. Therefore, these new modifiers should be used instead of modifier 59 to describe why a service is distinct.

Medicaid will continue to accept modifier 59 when the X {ESPU} modifiers do not accurately describe the encounter. Documentation must support use of modifiers.

### 3. Venipuncture/Specimen Collection

- The physician or lab shall bill directly for lab fees.
- The physician may bill, if the physician sends the lab work to an independent lab, is for venipuncture collection  
One collection fee is allowed for each beneficiary, regardless of the number of specimens drawn. When a series of specimens is required to complete a single test, the series is treated as a single encounter.
- CPT code 36416 may be used to bill for capillary blood collection. However, it is not payable by Medicaid. You should include in your fee/billing policy that you do not have to continue to bill services that you know are “not a covered service,” this will limit unnecessary denials. Since it is not a covered service for Medicaid, it could and should (if you are billing to other insurers) be billed to the client
- The amount you bill the client for a CPT code for lab work done in your LHD should include everything it takes to provide that service: supplies, collection, processing, and interpretation of results. Therefore, you would not charge an additional fee for a venipuncture if done since that cost should be included in the total fee for the CPT code for the test.

### 4. Handling Fee

Use CPT code 99000 for Handling, transfer and/or conveyance of specimen from the physician's office (LHD) to another laboratory. Medicaid does not reimburse for handling and/or conveyance of specimen. You may bill this code but remember that if you bill, you must bill **everyone** for the handling fee, but you will get denials from Medicaid. You should include in your fee/billing policy that you do not have to continue to bill services that you know are “not

a covered service”, this will limit unnecessary denials. Since it is not a covered service for Medicaid, it could and should (if you are billing to other insurers) be billed to the client.

#### 5. Pap Test Fee

If the client is self-pay, the reference lab bills the health department (based on negotiated rate) and the health department bills the client using the appropriate CPT code and 90 modifier based on SFS. The reference lab could file a claim ~~filed~~ with the insurance company (if appropriate)

#### 6. Fern Test

- The fern test is used for PROM (premature rupture of membranes) in a prenatal client by applying vaginal fluid to a slide and allowing it to dry. If placental fluid is present, then the fluid will dry in a pattern that looks like a fern branch when examined under the microscope.
- Currently, counties that participate in the state lab's CLIA contract program should **NOT** be performing the fern test because it is not on the test menu.
- CMS categorizes the fern test as a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner performed microscopy procedure (PPMP) that can be performed if the lab has a CLIA PPMP certificate, a certificate of Accreditation (CoA), or certificate of compliance (CoC) but **cannot** be performed if the lab has a CLIA certificate of waiver. If the lab has a PPMP certificate only a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner can perform the test, **not** a lab tech or nurse.
- CMS lists Q0114 as the **only** CPT code for the fern test in the list of approved PPMPs.

To bill or report for the fern test it is necessary to use HCPCS Q0114. Although Medicaid does not reimburse this code you would still bill Medicaid and receive a denial and can then bill the client if they are aware that they may be responsible for payment because it is a non-covered service.

#### Update- NCSLPH Requisition Forms

NPI numbers are now required on all NCSLPH requisition forms. Please see full memo at the link below.

<http://slph.ncpublichealth.com/doc/NPI-SubmissionForms-08-18-16.pdf>

#### Newborn Screening Fee Increase

In reference to the memo from the State Lab for Public Health, June 19, 2018, the fee for Newborn Screenings has increased from \$44.00 to \$128.00. Local health departments are not able to bill for this service, however you may include a Medicaid

ID number on the requisition form so that the lab may bill Medicaid directly. Local health departments should use program funds to cover non Medicaid clients.

**For additional program guidance, please contact your Regional NC State Lab for Public Health Consultant or visit the program website at <https://slph.ncpublichealth.com/>**

## Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT)

### Clinical Coverage Policy- Dietary Evaluation & Counseling (MNT)

<https://ncdma.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/documents/files/1-I.pdf>

1. Dietary evaluation and counseling provided in public agencies, private agencies, clinics, physician or medical diagnostic clinics, and physician offices shall be performed by:

- Dietitian/Nutritionist currently licensed by the N.C. Board of Dietetics/Nutrition (provisional license is not acceptable); OR
- a registered dietitian currently registered with the Commission of Dietetic Registration (registration eligibility is not acceptable).

It is the responsibility of the Dietician's/Nutritionist's agency to verify in writing all staff qualifications for their staff's provision of service. A copy of this verification (current licensure or registration) shall be maintained by the Dietician's/Nutritionist's agency. (NOTE: Additional credentialing information to be included in June 2018)

2. Dietary Evaluation and Counseling (Medical Nutrition Therapy) offers direction and guidance for specific nutrient needs related to a beneficiary's diagnosis and protocol. Individualized care plans provide for disease-related nutritional therapy and counseling. Refer to Clinical Coverage Policy for specific diagnoses that are covered.

- Children through 20 Years of Age

Dietary evaluation and counseling is covered for children through 20 years of age receiving Medicaid and for children receiving NCHC ages 6 through 18 years when there is a chronic, episodic, or acute condition for which nutrition therapy is a critical component of medical management

- Pregnant and Postpartum Women

Medicaid covers dietary evaluation and counseling for pregnant women when the pregnancy is threatened by chronic, episodic, or acute conditions for which nutrition therapy is a critical component of medical management, and for postpartum women who need follow-up for these conditions or who develop such conditions early in the postpartum period.

- Service Setting

Dietary evaluation and counseling shall be provided as an individual, face-to-face encounter with the beneficiary or the beneficiary's caretaker.

- Service Limitations

The initial assessment and intervention is limited to four units of service per date of service and cannot exceed four units per 270 calendar days by the same or a different Dietician/Nutritionist. The re-assessment and intervention is limited to four units of service per date of service and cannot exceed 20 units per 365 calendar days by the same or a different Dietician/Nutritionist.

- **Medical Record Documentation**

Medical record documentation shall be maintained for each beneficiary, in the medical records of the beneficiary's primary care Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner for at least six (6) years, and shall include, at a minimum:

- The date of service.
- The presenting problem.
- A summary of the required nutrition service components.
- The signature of the qualified nutritionist providing the service.
- The beneficiary's primary care or specialty care Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner's order for the service.

### **Billing Units**

Dietician/Nutritionist(s) shall report the appropriate code(s) used which determines the billing unit(s).

- **CPT code 97802 MNT: initial assessment & intervention**

Each 15 minutes of service equals 1 billing unit.

- Service is limited to a maximum of 4 units per date of service.
- Service cannot exceed 4 units per 270 calendar days.

- **CPT code 97803 MNT: reassessment & intervention**

Each 15 minutes of service equals 1 billing unit.

- Service is limited to a maximum of 4 units per date of service.
- Service cannot exceed a maximum of 20 units per 365 calendar days.

## **WIC Program**

All individuals categorically eligible for the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program shall be referred to that program for routine nutrition education and food supplements.

**Note:** For agencies that also administer a WIC Program, the nutrition education contacts required by that program shall be provided prior to billing Medicaid for dietary evaluation and counseling. Staff time utilized to provide a Medicaid-reimbursable nutrition service shall not be charged to WIC program funds.

Dietitians/Nutritionists providing dietary evaluation and counseling are encouraged to refer eligible clients to the Pregnancy Care Management (PCM) or CC4C programs as appropriate.

## Telemedicine & Telepsychiatry

- Only the provider that provides the care or counseling for the client may bill for the actual E&M or counseling visit.
- The list of codes that local health departments may bill as of this time are as follows:

99201	99241
99202	99242
99203	99243
99204	99244
99205	99245
99211	99251
99212	99252
99213	99253
99214	99254
99215	99255

- The agency that facilitates the transaction between the client and the off-site provider may bill the “facility fee” once per beneficiary/day, regardless of how off-site providers may participate in the care. Please read the DMA Clinical Policy 1-H carefully prior to initiating this service. Special equipment and security is required.

Reference the Medicaid Clinical Policy at <https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/documents/files/1-H.pdf>



## Local Use Codes

Please refer to memo and updates list regarding use of LU codes on the DPH/LHD website under the Documentation and Coding header

<http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/docs/Discontinuation-LU-CodeSet-020118.pdf>

<http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/docs/LU-CodesRevised2016List-010518.pdf>

## Adult Health

### 1. Procedures and E/M codes

When providing a procedure, you will bill the procedure code alone (i.e. colposcopy). If you are providing additional components and have the documentation to support an office visit in addition to the procedure that was performed, then you can bill an E/M code as appropriate and append the -25 modifier to the E/M code.

### 2. Pre-Employment Physicals

LHDs may perform pre-employment physicals provided they follow appropriate clinical and billing guidelines. The CPT code selected should best align with a complete adult physical and must be provided by a Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner. An ERRN is not qualified to perform a physical exam for a commercial driver's license or for pre-employment with The Department of Corrections (DOC). The LHD is permitted to have a "flat fee" in an agreement with an organization that is different from the fee charged to individuals. You would still follow "your charge is your charge" mantra, but you can accept different levels of reimbursement.

### 3. The adult annual health assessment is not covered when the medical criteria listed in **Section 3.0 of the Clinical Coverage Policy**

<https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/documents/files/1A-2.pdf> are not met. The annual health assessment is not covered when the recipient has an illness or specific health care need that results in a definitive medical diagnosis with medical decision-making and the initiation of treatment, and when the policy guidelines listed in **Section 5.0 of the Clinical Coverage Policy** below are not met:

#### **Limitations**

- Medicaid beneficiaries 21 years of age and older may receive one annual health assessment per 365 days.
- The annual health assessment is not included in the legislated 22-visit limit per year.

- Injectable medications and ancillary studies for laboratory and radiology are the only CPT codes that are separately billable when an annual health assessment is billed.
- **An annual health assessment and an office visit cannot be billed on the same date of service.**
- **See page 11 for information related to more than one physical within a 365 day period.**

## WISEWOMAN/Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP)

If you have any questions regarding BCCCP, please contact your BCCCP/WISEWOMAN Regional Consultant.

## Dental Services

Guidance for Billing of Procedure Codes D0145 and D1206:

Claims that include procedure codes D0145 (Oral evaluation for a client under three years of age and counseling with primary caregiver) and D1206 (Topical application of fluoride varnish) must be billed in a particular order for both to pay correctly. Procedure code D1206 must be billed on the detail line before D0145. NCTracks is designed to adjudicate one detail line at a time, beginning with the first detail line on the claim and proceeding through the last. NCTracks must verify that D1206 has been paid before D0145 can be paid for the same date of service. Ensuring that claims are billed with the procedure codes in this order will expedite processing and payment. If the claim is originally submitted to NCTracks with the procedure codes in the wrong order and only D1206 is paid, the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner must submit a new claim for D0145 only.

## Medicaid Specific Modifiers

Local Health Department specific: (these are modifiers, **not** program types)

- **EP** modifiers are used for immunizations, preventive visits and other services under Health Check.
- **FP** modifiers are used in Family Planning program type with Family Planning related services.

- **TJ** modifiers are used for immunizations, preventive visits and other services for Health Choice covered children. Do not use TJ modifier when billing Medicaid for Family Planning services rendered to Health Choice covered children. This issue has now been corrected by NCTracks and you should receive the correct reimbursement.
- **UD** modifiers are used to identify contraceptives purchased with 340b pricing. N.C. Medicaid requires the UD modifier to be billed with the applicable HCPCS code and NDC to properly identify 340B drugs. All non-340-B drugs are billed using the associated HCPC and NDC pair without the UD modifier.

### **Additional Modifiers that may be used**

- **Modifier -24 Complications of Pregnancy, Unrelated Issues**

If a client develops complications of pregnancy or the provider treats the client for an unrelated problem, these visits are excluded from the maternity global package and can be reported separately. Append modifier 24 *Unrelated evaluation and management service by the same physician during the global period* to all E/M services that address the pregnancy complications or unrelated issues. Modifier 24 is needed to alert the carrier that the E/M service(s) is unrelated to the global OB package

**Example:** An established client at 22-weeks' gestation is admitted to hospital observation with pre-term labor. The client's OB/GYN visits the client in observation and performs a comprehensive history, exam, and MDM of moderate complexity. The next day, the OB/GYN returns and determines the client has improved. The client is discharged from observation care with orders to follow up in the OB/GYN's office in one week. Note: this can be a service provided in the office and is not specifically related to hospital services/care.

**Remember:** The global maternity package includes uncomplicated care. Because this client was diagnosed with pre-term labor and admitted to observation, this is not uncomplicated care and, thus, it is separately reportable with the observation E/M codes. Modifier 24 is needed to indicate these encounters are unrelated to the global maternity package. Note- these services must be billed after the OB package code is billed.

- **Modifier 25 - Significant, Separately Identifiable Evaluation and Management (E/M) Service by the Same Physician on the Same Day of the Procedure or Other Service.** Modifier 25 needs to be used if a separately identifiable E/M service by the same Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner or other qualified health care professional is done on the same day as a procedure or other service. The physician may need to indicate that the client's condition required a service above and beyond

what is expected for other services provided on the same day. The modifier 25 is attached to the E/M code, not the procedure code.

- **Modifier 51 - Multiple Procedures.** Modifier 51 indicates several procedures were performed during the same encounter, for the same client, on the same date by the same Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner. Medicaid will not determine the major procedure for the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner. It is the Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner's responsibility to identify the primary and secondary procedures correctly to be reimbursed appropriately. Code the primary procedure first and add 51 to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and other subsequent procedures.
- **Modifiers 52 & 53-** \*NOTE: Modifiers with 58300: Use modifier -52 (Failed Procedure) to denote that you attempted insertion, but the procedure was incomplete due to anatomical factors (e.g. Stenosis) or -53 (Discontinued Procedure) to indicate that you had to stop because of concerns for client well-being (e.g. vaso-vagal, severe pain). [According to the 2016 LARC Quick Coding Guide Supplement at <http://beyondthepill.ucsf.edu/sites/beyondthepill.ucsf.edu/files/LARC%20Quick%20Coding%20Guide%20Supplement.pdf>
- **Modifier 59- Modifier 59 Guidance from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)** Modifier 59 is used to identify procedures/services that are commonly bundled together but are appropriate to report separately under some circumstances. A health care Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner may need to use modifier 59 to indicate that a procedure or service was distinct or independent from other services performed on the same day. This means a different location, different anatomical site, and/or a different session. Documentation must support a different session, different procedure or surgery, different site or organ system, separate incision/excision, separate lesion, or separate injury (or area of injury in extensive injuries) not ordinarily encountered or performed on the same day by the same individual. However, when another already established modifier is appropriate, it should be used rather than modifier 59.
- **Modifier 76 - Repeat Procedure by the Same Physician or other qualified health care professional on the Same Day.** Modifier 76 is appended to report that a diagnostic procedure or service was repeated by the same Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner on the same date of service. Modifier 76 is used to indicate that a repeat diagnostic procedure was medically necessary and is not a duplicate billing of the original procedure done on the same date of service.
- **Modifier 90 – Reference (Outside) Laboratory.** When laboratory procedures are performed by a party other than the treating or reporting physician, the procedure should be identified by adding the modifier “90” to the CPT code for the laboratory

test. (e.g. LHD obtains sample but sends to outside laboratory for processing; in this case, the 90 modifier would be appended to the laboratory test)

- **Modifier 91 - Repeat Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory Tests.** It may be necessary to repeat the same laboratory test on the same day to obtain subsequent (multiple) test results. Under these circumstances, the laboratory test performed can be identified by its usual CPT code and the addition of modifier "91." This modifier may not be used when tests are repeated to confirm initial results; due to testing problems with specimens or equipment; or for any other reason when a normal, one-time, reportable result is all that is required. It may not be used when other codes describe a series of test results (e.g. Fasting and 2-hour Postprandial Glucose.)
- **"OB" Modifier-** Beginning July 1, 2016, if you report or bill with a zero \$0 charge office visits that are associated with an OB package code or OB global package code, please use the "OB" non-standard modifier for these OB office visits.
- **"SL" Modifier-** Beginning July 1, 2016, please add "SL" modifier to all state supplied vaccines billed or reported.
- Effective Jan. 1, 2015, four new modifiers more effectively identify **distinct services that are typically considered inclusive to another service.** \* Utilizing these modifiers will help with more accurate coding that better describes the procedural encounter. These modifiers are appropriate for NCCI procedure-to-procedure edits only
  - **XE – Separate Encounter:** A service that is distinct because it occurred during a separate encounter.
  - **XS – Separate Structure:** A service that is distinct because it was performed on a separate organ/structure.
  - **XP – Separate Practitioner:** A service that is distinct because it was performed by a different practitioner.
  - **XU – Unusual Non-Overlapping Service:** The use of a service that is distinct because it does not overlap usual components of the main service.

Do not use one of these modifiers with modifier 59 on the same claim line. According to CPT guidelines, modifier 59 should be used only when no other descriptive modifier explains why distinct procedural circumstances exist. Therefore, these new modifiers should be used instead of modifier 59 to describe why a service is distinct. Medicaid will continue to accept modifier 59 when the X {ESPU} modifiers do not accurately describe the encounter. Documentation must support use of modifiers

**\*If you receive denials when using these "X" modifiers, continue to rebill the claims until current issues between DMA and NCTracks and electronic health record vendors can be resolved.** We have been advised that that billing via the NCTracks portal works for these modifiers.

## Consultation Codes

- The only consult codes currently allowed and on the LHD fee schedule are 99241-99245 and 99275. The consultation visit codes can be used when another “physician or appropriate source” refers a client to the LHD “to either recommend care for a specific condition or problem or to determine whether to accept responsibility for ongoing management of the client’s entire care or the care of a specific condition or problem.” For example: Under new procedures supported by AAP and CCNC, DSS requires an initial assessment (not necessarily a full PE) prior to assigning the child to foster care. The assessment is meant to identify any issues that require immediate medical attention such as uncontrolled asthma or significant behavioral health issues and to link with needed resources such as CC4C or behavioral health. The LHD may or may not become the medical home for the child. DSS is engaging LHDs across the state to provide these services to expedite transfer to foster care.

**References:**

- Current CPT, ICD and HCPCS code books, which are updated annually, should be available to the appropriate staff.
- DMA website should be reviewed regularly for monthly General Medicaid and Special Bulletins as well as Clinical Policy Manuals and Billing Guidelines [NC Division of Medical Assistance https://dma.ncdhhs.gov/](https://dma.ncdhhs.gov/)
- Contact your program consultants or PHNPDU Nursing consultant for coding questions.

**Contacts:****PHNPDU Nurse Consultants:**

Lynn Conner: (336) 207-3300 [lynn.conner@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:lynn.conner@dhhs.nc.gov)  
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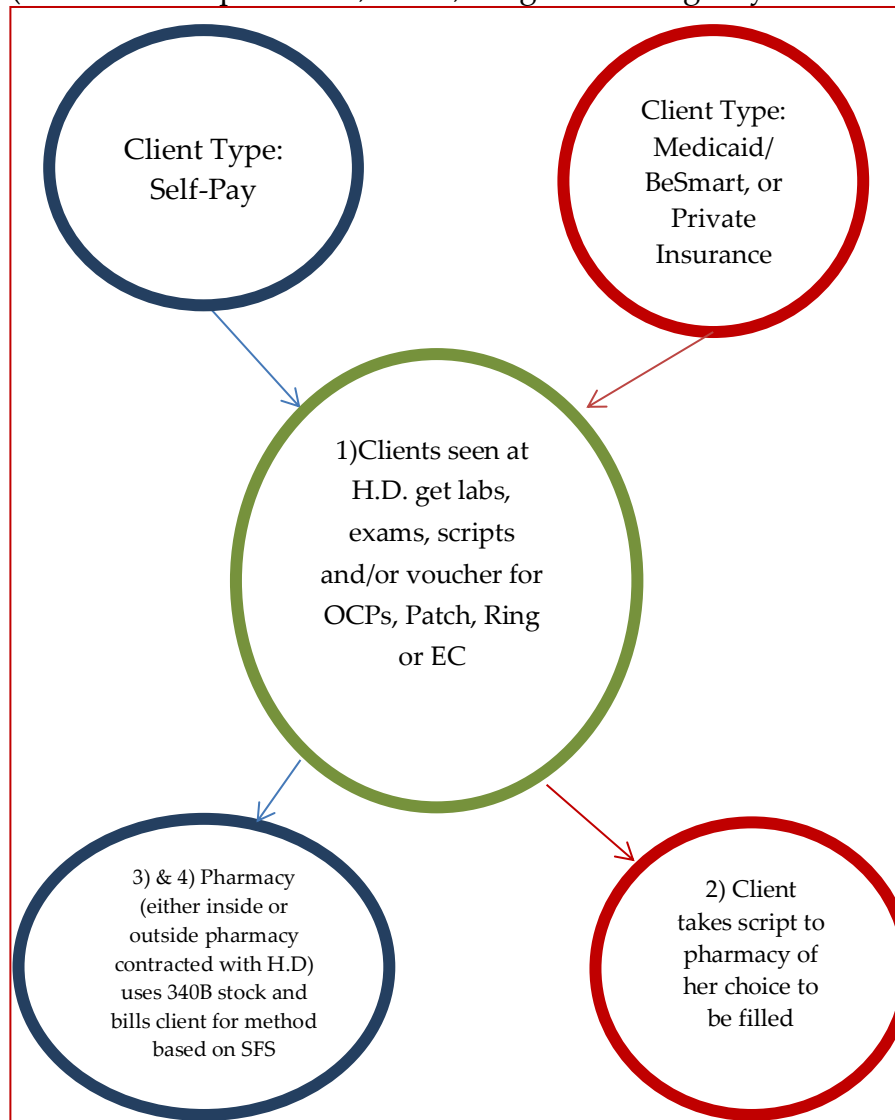
**Phyllis Rocco, RN – Branch Head, Public Health Nursing and Professional Development Unit, Local Technical Assistance & Training**

**(919) 707-5131** [phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov)

[NCDPH Regional Nurse Consultant Directory http://ncpublichealthnursing.org/phn\\_dirc.htm](http://ncpublichealthnursing.org/phn_dirc.htm)

## Appendices

### Appendix A Flow Chart for LHD Billing by Client Types (Oral Contraceptive Pills, Patch, Ring and Emergency Contraception)

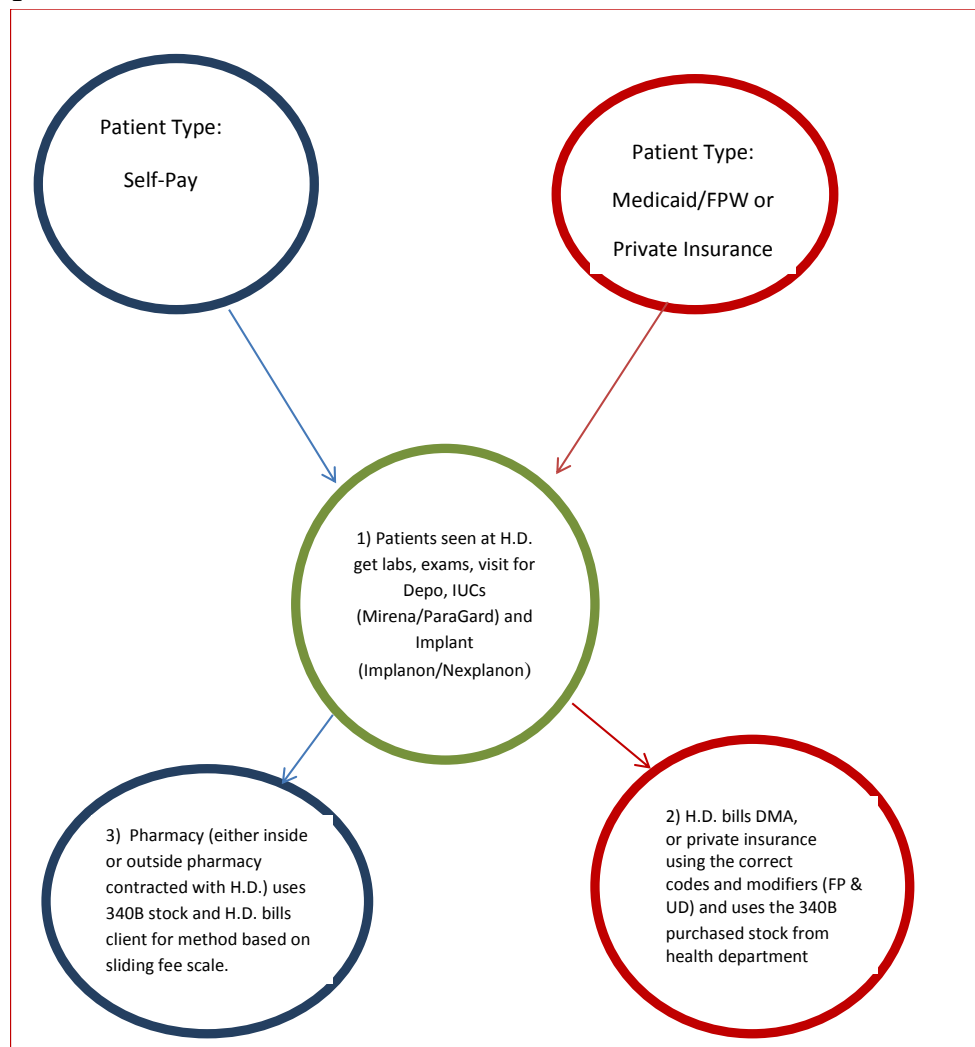


- 1) H.D. bills financial source for labs, exam, visit, etc. (i.e., DMA/third party insurance or self-pay on sliding fee scale) using appropriate ICD-10 codes with FP modifier.
- 2) Clients who have Medicaid and/or third party insurance take prescription (not voucher) to pharmacy of their choice and that individual pharmacy will bill DMA/third party insurance directly using their **OWN** stock and **NOT the** LHD's 340B purchased inventory.
- 3) Self pay clients will receive their supply from the LHD's 340B purchased inventory and will pay the LHD based on their sliding fee scale (SFS) percentage (%).



## Appendix B Flow Chart for LHD Billing by Client Types (Depo, IUDs: Mirena/ParaGard and Implants:)

1



1) H.D. bills financial source for labs, exam, visit, etc. (i.e., DMA/third party insurance or self-pay on sliding fee scale) using appropriate ICD-10 codes with FP modifier.

2) Clients who have Medicaid/FPW and/or third party insurance receive method from H.D. 340B purchased inventory and H.D. bills using FP and UD modifiers to DMA (no UD modifier for third party insurance).

3) Self pay clients will receive their supply from the LHD's 340B purchased inventory and will pay the LHD based on their SFS category.

**Appendix C: Memorandum from Evelyn Foust re: STD services not billed to client**



FOY COOPER  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

State of North Carolina  
Department of Justice

P. O. Box 629  
RALEIGH  
27602-0629

Reply to:  
John P. Barkley  
Health & Public Assistance  
Tel.: (919) 716-6864  
Fax: (919) 716-6758

August 31, 2001

Ms. Evelyn Foust  
HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch  
1902 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1902

Re: STD Services at No Charge to Patient

Dear Evelyn:

15A NCAC 19A .0204 (a), requires that "diagnosis, testing, treatment, follow-up and preventive services for syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, nongonococcal urethritis, mucopurulent cervicitis, chancroid, lymphogranuloma venereum, and granuloma inguinale ... be provided upon request and at no charge to the patient." The HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch in DHHS has prepared a guidance document on billing for STDs that states that screening or diagnostic testing services for all sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) must be provided at no charge to the patient, even for patients who do not have one of the STDs specifically identified in the Rule .0204(a). The Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) asked how services for diagnosis and testing can be provided at no charge to the patient for diseases other than those specified in Rule .0204(a)?

When screening or diagnostic testing is done, it is not known which STDs will be found. It is only after the screening or testing is done that the non-specified diseases are discovered. Therefore, the screening or diagnostic testing still falls within the rubric of services provided at no charge to the patient because they are designed to either diagnose or rule out both specified and unspecified STDs. However, once a STD that is not specified in the rule, such as venereal warts, has been diagnosed, treatment and follow-up services may be charged to the patient.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. Barkley".

John P. Barkley  
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Judy Owen O'Dowd  
Steve Cline  
Chris Hoke

This is an advisory letter. It has not been reviewed and approved in accordance with procedures for issuing an attorney general's opinion.

## “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid Program June 20, 2018 - Webinar Questions

Contact: Shahnee Haire, Program Manager “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid Program North Carolina  
Division of Public Health, Women’s Health Branch 919-707-5683 // shahnee.haire@dhhs.nc.gov

**Question:** Can you review specific labs covered under family planning?

**Answer:** Laboratory services covered under the “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid Program include:

- a) Hematocrit or hemoglobin;
- b) Urinalysis for sugar and protein;
- c) Papanicolaou tests (including repeat tests for insufficient cells);
- d) Screening for Gonorrhea, Syphilis, Chlamydia, Herpes, Treponema, Papillomavirus, Destruction, Benign or Pre-malignant lesion(s), General STI screening; and screening for HIV.
- e) Pregnancy testing

Please note that urinalysis, blood count, and Pap tests may only be performed on the day of the annual exam or up to 30 days after the annual exam. One repeat pap test may be performed for insufficient cells within 180 calendar days of the first pap test.

**Question:** Are ER visits covered?

**Answer:** The “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid Program does not cover Hospital Emergency room or emergency department services.

**Question:** We are working with a local health department to increase the demand for services. Do you have data that shows the percent of the county population that would qualify for Be Smart services?

**Answer:** For data questions related to this program, please contact Shahnee.haire@dhhs.nc.gov directly.

**Question:** What kinds of service can be offered to a 4-year-old or an 80-year-old in Family Planning?

**Answer:** “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid services are for patients who are currently able to conceive and who are currently trying to delay or avoid pregnancy. No services are indicated for patients who are not capable of achieving pregnancy (including a 4-year-old and an 80-year-old female), and “Be Smart” Family Planning Medicaid should not be billed for any such services. However, an 80-year-old male is still eligible to receive service through “Be Smart”.

**Question:** What does a provider say if a client was given Medicaid but cannot use it?

**Answer:** Individuals that are eligible for “Be Smart” due to income but are not clinically eligible can be concerning to both parties. A script to assist health agencies on informing individuals, that they are unable to use their “Be Smart” Medicaid is being finalized. Until our script is published, please refer to the Division of Medical Assistance January 2018 Medicaid Bulletin for provider guidance.

• DMA Sterilization and Eligibility Guidelines Bulletin Link:

[https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/Medicaid\\_Bulletin\\_2018\\_01](https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/Medicaid_Bulletin_2018_01).

## Glossary

- **AED-** Annual Exam Date
- **AH-** Adult Health- Program type typically used for adult preventive or sick care visits. An adult preventive medicine health assessment consists of a comprehensive unclothed physical examination, comprehensive health history, anticipatory guidance/risk factor reduction interventions, and the ordering of gender- and age-appropriate laboratory and diagnostic procedures. Some LHDs use this program code for BCCCP and WISEWOMAN services.
- **CH-** Child Health- Pediatric primary care at LHDs. Children may be treated for common illnesses, and their long-term health needs can be managed. Doctors will refer children as necessary to specialists.
- **CPT-** Current Procedural Terminology; codes & descriptions for reporting/billing medical services, procedures, supplies and materials. Accurate CPT coding provides an efficient method of communicating medical services and procedures among health care Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners, health care facilities, and third-party payers and enhances the health care Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioner's control of the reimbursement process.
- **DMA-** Division of Medical Assistance
- **DPH-** Division of Public Health
- **DSM-** Diabetes Self-Management
- **E/M-** Evaluation & Management (CPT codes)
- **EP-** Modifier required on *all most* Medicaid claims to identify services rendered to recipients under the age of 21. It is not required for E&M visits.

The EP modifier must be included on most of the components for the periodic and inter-periodic visit types including:

- immunization administration, (but not vaccine product codes)
- vision,
- hearing,
- maternal postpartum depression screening
- developmental screenings
- autism screenings
- screening for emotional/behavioral problems
- screening for adolescent health risks
- Other screening-related services for adolescents (i.e., smoking and tobacco cessation counseling, alcohol and/or substance abuse structured screening and brief intervention services)

EP is a required modifier for these Health Check claim details but not to be used with laboratory services and vaccine products. **NOTE: See the HCPG for a list of all components required in order to bill periodic or inter-periodic services. Please be sure to enter all reportable services when a Health Check visit occurs.**

- **EPI-** Communicable Disease
- **ERRN-** Enhanced Role Registered Nurse-  
CHERRN: At the completion of the CHERRN program, Registered nurses will be able to independently:
  - perform EPSDT (Health Check) screenings using AAP Bright Futures evidence-based recommendations as the clinical framework.
  - Complete all components of a Health Check screening visit, focusing on the comprehensive pediatric history and the complete physical assessment.
  - identification of problems, assuring appropriate consultation, referral and/or treatment of identified problems, along with documentation to support quality of care and billing requirements

STI ERRN: At the completion of the STI Nurse ERRN program, Registered Nurses will be able to independently:

- Perform and document an STI assessment.
- Identify and treat specified STIs by standardized protocols and standing orders.
- Develop a working knowledge of specimen collection and laboratory procedures as they relate to STI assessment and treatment.
- Provide STI client education, risk reduction counseling and follow-up for STIs, utilizing a client-centered approach.
- Integrate STI risk assessment into the client assessment process.
- **Flat Fee-** a charge that does not slide. Often used for services provided in Adult health and Other Services.
- **FP-** Family Planning- provision of family planning services and supplies furnished (directly or under arrangements with others) to individuals of childbearing age (including minors who can be considered to be sexually active) who are eligible under the state plan and who desire such services and supplies
- **HC-** Health Check- The Health Check program facilitates regular preventive medical care and the diagnosis and treatment of any health problem found during a screening. There is no separate enrollment in Health Check. If someone is eligible for Medicaid and is under the age of 21, they automatically receive Health Check services. Together, Health Check and [EPSDT](#) provide for the complete care of children and youth in Medicaid

- **Health Choice-** N.C. Health Choice for Children (NCHC) provides free or low-cost health insurance for children and teens from age 6 through the end of the month of their 19th birthday. The benefits covered by NCHC are equivalent to the benefits covered by the Medicaid program with four broad exceptions: 1) No EPSDT; 2) No long-term care; 3) No non-emergency medical transportation; and, 4) Restricted dental and orthodontic benefits.
- **HCPCS-** Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System. It was established in 1978 as a way to standardize identification of medical services, supplies and equipment.
- **ICD-** International Classification of Diseases
- **Inter-periodic/Periodic -** The **2016 HCBG** defines Periodic and Interperiodic well visits as follows:

**Periodic:** Encounter for routine child health exam with abnormal findings – Z00.121  
Encounter for routine child health exam without abnormal findings – Z00.129

**Routine Interperiodic:** Encounter for other administrative exam – Z02.89

The NC *Health Check* Program recommends regular medical screening assessments (well child visits) for beneficiaries as indicated in the following table. North Carolina Medicaid's periodicity schedule is only a guideline. Should a beneficiary need to have screening or assessment visits on a different schedule, the visits are still covered. While frequency of visits is not a required element of reimbursement by NC *Health Check*, this schedule of visits for eligible infants, children and adolescents is strongly recommended to parents and health care providers.

**Please Note: Completion of all elements of the *Health Check* well-child visit as indicated for each age group in the periodicity schedule is *required* for Medicaid provider reimbursement.**

- **LU-** Local - (codes) LU codes may be used to **report or bill** services that are NOT billable by a CPT or HCPCS code
- **MH-** Maternal Health/Obstetrics/Prenatal Care- Obstetrics is a branch of medical science that deals with maternity care, including antepartum care, labor and delivery, and postpartum care. Standards of care are published by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the American College of Nurse Midwifery (ACNM) for the perinatal care of the mother.
- **MNT-** Medical Nutrition Therapy
- **Modifiers- additions** to CPT codes to identify that something additional/different was performed at the same time.
- **NCIP-** The North Carolina Immunization Program works in conjunction with the federal vaccine supply program, called the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program,

to provide vaccines free of cost to health care Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners across the state. Participating health care Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners must administer these vaccines according to NCIP guidelines.

- **NCTracks-** Medicaid Contractor. Processes and pays Medicaid claims.
- **NDC-** National Drug Code
- **OS-** Other Services; used to record services not identified with another program type
- **PC-** Primary Care; may be used to record primary care services to Adults or Children.
- **PMH-** Pregnancy Medical Home
- **SFS-** Sliding Fee Scale; required by most programs
- **STI-** Sexually Transmitted Infections - diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STI) provided in the LHD setting. Service includes medical history, diagnostic examinations for sexually transmitted diseases, laboratory tests as medically indicated, treatment as indicated, and referral as appropriate
- **TB SKIN TEST-** Tuberculin Skin Test
- **Title V-** Federal funding for Women's & Children's Health programs
- **Title X-** Federal funding for Family Planning
- **VFC-** The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program helps provide vaccines to children whose parents or guardians may not be able to afford them. This helps ensure that all children have a better chance of getting their recommended vaccinations on schedule. Vaccines available through the VFC Program are those recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). These vaccines protect babies, young children, and adolescents from 16 diseases. Funding for the VFC program is approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and allocated through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC buys vaccines at a discount and distributes them to grantees—i.e., state health departments and certain local and territorial public health agencies—which in turn distribute them at no charge to those private physicians' offices and public health clinics registered as VFC Physician or Advanced Practice Practitioners.
- **WIC-** The **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** is a federal assistance program of the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for healthcare and nutrition of low-income pregnant women, breastfeeding women, and infants and children under the age of five.
- **340-B-** Federal program for purchasing drugs/medications at a reduced rate

## Quick Links

### **General Information**

#### Documentation

[Documentation Guidance from LTAT Branch Head](#)

#### Billing

[OPA- Title X Program Requirements April 2014](#)

#### Standing Orders

<http://www.ncbon.com/myfiles/downloads/position-statements-decision-trees/standing-orders.pdf>

[www.ncpublichealthnursing.org](http://www.ncpublichealthnursing.org)

#### PC/Primary Care

[\(to be added\)](#)

#### ICD Coding Resources

<http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/icd10/training.htm>

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/Downloads/ICD10QuickStartGuide20150622.pdf>

<http://www.roadto10.org/>

### **Child Health**

#### Health Check Program Guide

<http://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dph/wch/aboutus/childrenyouth.htm>

#### Medicaid

### **Immunization**

#### Health Check Program Guide

<http://www.sog.unc.edu/publications/bulletins/immunizations-children-and-adolescents-frequently-asked-questions-about-north-carolinas-laws>



<http://www.immunize.nc.gov/providers/coveragecriteria.htm><http://www.immunize.nc.gov/providers/index.htm>

## **Sexually Transmitted Infections**

STI Clinical Coverage Policy- Treatment in Local Health Department

<http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/lhds.html>

## **Tuberculosis Control & Treatment**

Clinical Coverage Policy- Tuberculosis Treatment in Local Health Department

## **Communicable Disease**

<http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/lhds.html>

## **Women's Health**

### **Maternity/OB Billing**

Clinical Coverage Policy- Obstetrics

Clinical Coverage Policy- Pregnancy Medical Home 1E-6

Fetal Surveillance 1E-4

NCAPHNA WHNC Fall 2015 Report

<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/mp/1E6.pdf>

Birthing Classes-Clinical Coverage Policy 1M-2

<http://whb.ncpublichealth.com/>

## **Family Planning**

Clinical Coverage Policy- Family Planning/Be Smart

Please refer to the February 2016 Medicaid Bulletin, page 16 for additional information.

Physician Drug Program: <http://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dma/mp/1B.pdf>

Attachment A, C1 of the Clinical Coverage Policy

Clinical Coverage Policy- Attachment B, section B

<http://whb.ncpublichealth.com/>

**Pharmacy**

Physician Drug Program: <http://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dma/mp/1B.pdf>

**Laboratory**

<http://slph.ncpublic.com/>

**Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT)**

Clinical Coverage Policy- Dietary Evaluation & Counseling (MNT)

**Local Use Codes (LU Codes)**

[phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov)

~~Approved LU Codes~~

**Medicaid Specific Modifiers**

NC Division of Medical Assistance